MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 APRIL 1982

Assassination Aftermath

"Our cumultative intelligence indicates that the PLO was responsible" for the assassination of Israeli diplomat Ya'aqov Bar-Simantov, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman stated, according to the Jerusalem POST. Senior spokesmen in both the Foreign Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office denied a Jerusalem radio report claiming government circles had concluded that neonazis murdered Bar-Simantov. In a letter to the UN Security Council, Israel charged the PLO with responsibility and said it will hold the instigators, perpetrators and abettors of the crime answerable for their deeds, the Jerusalem POST added.

After a 2-hour meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin, opposition leader Shim'on Peres said over Jerusalem radio that the murder violates the cease-fire but added that no automatic conclusions should be drawn from his statement. Earlier Begin had told Agudat Yisra'el leaders that the murders of the diplomat and a Janin border policeman are serious matters which cannot go unnoticed and warned that the terrorists will not be allowed to continue their acts, DAVAR reported.

Sa'd Sayil, Fatah Central Committee member and joint forces central operations chief, affirmed that Bar-Simantov was killed by Israeli intelligence to create an excuse for aggression against the PLO, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported. He added that PLO forces are ready to face any Zionist aggression, the radio said.

Israel

The Golan Druze strike is now about 80 percent effective and pro-Syrian Druze are collecting Israeli identification cards to return them to the Interior Ministry, Jerusalem radio reported. Scores of Israeli Druze notables have openly thrown their support behind their Golan brothers' struggle against application of Israeli law to the Heights, according to the radio.

Lebanon

Syria has reinforced its forces in Al-Biqa' with new SAM's, and Syrian forces have transported artillery and other military equipment from the Al-Biqa' plain to impregnable positions in the mountains, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

PLO

'Arafat Speech -- The Palestinian people are paying a high price for what happened at the recent Fes summit, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said at a meeting in Kuwait reported by AL-QABAS on 5 April. The Palestinian revolution is facing not only the Zionist enemy but also the United States, whose fleets are engulfing the Arab region. Reiterating his call for swords, not Arab prayers, to confront the joint U.S.-Zionist defiance, 'Arafat reaffirmed that Palestine will be recovered not through resolutions but through the gun. He also stated that the PLO has contacts within Egypt's Armed Forces and with patriotic forces in the Egyptian Army and people.

Meeting Denial -- On 5 April Tehran radio reported a 2-hour meeting in Kuwait between 'Arafat and Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati. An official PLO source denied that such a meeting occurred, KUNA reported.

Diplomatic Status -- The Sri Lankan Government has decided to grant the PLO full diplomatic status, according to Voice of Palestine.

Nonaligned Meeting in Kuwait

Egyptian Proposal -- Egyptian delegation head 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid proposed a nonaligned initiative based on mutual and simultaneous recognition between the "Palestinian people" and Israel, in remarks at the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau meeting in Kuwait reported by MENA. 'Abd al-Majid explained that such recognition would require Israel to recognize Palestinian rights to return or be compensated, to sovereignty over land, wealth and resources, to self-determination without foreign interference, to establishment of an independent state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on the basis of the 1967 borders, to sovereignty in Jerusalem, and to removal of Israeli settlements and abolition of any other Israeli measures to change the geographic or legal status of the occupied territories. In return, contemporary international circumstances require that Israel's right to exist within internationally recognized and secure borders also be recognized within a mutual framework, 'Abd al-Majid added. Egypt will continue its work to regain the Palestinians' rights in practice, not merely to emphasize them in theory, and the proposed initiative will begin to break the stalemate about to engulf the Palestinian issue, Egypt's chief delegate asserted.

PLO Rejection -- The PLO totally rejects the Egyptian proposal, PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi responded in a statement published in the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM cited by KUNA.

Iran-Iraq Antagonism, Mediation -- Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati walked out of the conference hall when UN General Assembly President 'Ismat Kittani, who is an Iraqi, began to speak, KUNA reported. In a message to the conference, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn expressed regret that some states are purchasing arms from the Zionist entity, according to INA.

After separate meetings with the Iraqi and Iranian foreign ministers, Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti announced that both countries have agreed that the Islamic subcommittee headed by Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure will visit their capitals later this month in an effort to end the conflict, INA reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Eighty percent of the Iraqi Navy has been destroyed and the remainder does not dare to engage in battle, Commander of the Iranian Navy Admiral Bahram 'Afzali stated, according to IRNA and Tehran radio's Arabic service.

An Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian claims that Iraqi aircraft raided Dezful on 4 April, INA reported.

King Husayn Trip -- Heading a delegation which included the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, King Husayn returned to Amman from a 2-day tour of Saudi Arabia and Qatar, Amman television reported. During the Saudi-Jordanian talks the two sides reviewed the military and political situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front and stressed the need for building a unified stand, according to Amman PETRA-JNA. King Husayn and the amir of Qatar also asserted the importance of building a joint Arab stand to face the aggressive designs aimed against the region, Amman television noted.

Egypt

The higher state security prosecution has begun investigating 140 extremist religious organization members who were arrested last week, AL-AHRAM reported on 5 April. The defendants belong to two organizations which seek to impose Islamic law by force and to incite the masses, the paper added.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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NABULUS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL URGES PROLONGED STRIKE

JN070823 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 April 82

["Text" of statement by the Municipal Council of Nabulus -- date not specified]

[Text] Masses of our people, your heroic stand in the face of the civilian administration conspiracy, your brave confrontation and your willingness to sacrifice will undoubtedly foil the true aims of the occupation authorities in dismissing the Al-Birah mayor and municipal council and the Ramallah and Nabulus mayors. These aims are to subjugate our Palestinian people in the occupied territories, enabling the occupation authorities to tighten their aggressive and expansionist plans, which include annexing the occupied territories, legalizing the Zionist military presence in our land and eliminating the inhabitants living under that pretext, the Civilian Administration. The civilian administration is a framework to legalize occupation and force our people to relinquish their rights to land, freedom and national sovereignty.

Your united struggle, which swept all occupied areas where our people reside and which reached new horizons through our struggle and cause, will surely create new and positive results. The occupation authorities chose to attack the unity of our people who are defending their existence and rights. The occupation authorities thus did not dispose of the municipal councils as a whole but dismissed only the Al-Birah municipal council and mayor, and were satisfied with dismissing only the mayors of Ramallah and Nabulus in an attempt to break up our unity with an iron grip to prevent our people from expressing a united stand.

The occupation authorities also began to threaten members and employees of the municipal councils who firmly refused to obey this expansionist move, thus remaining committed to the united will of our people in rejecting these measures.

This honorable stand was a surprise to those who planned this rancorous and treacherous conspiracy. The firm support of the municipalities and Israeli and international democratic forces was of great value. The occupation authorities, who do not usually reconsider methods or policies, continued to practice oppression and terrorism and to use such rancorous methods as the carrot and stick policy. These methods were even applied to the citizens' food supply, their needs and human relations. This forces us to preserve our conviction which stems from our long experience with the occupation authorities.

The occupation authorities give nothing because they want everything. Thus the municipal council greets the stand of our masses and particularly the technicians, workers and employees of the municipalities' offices for their brave stand. The municipal council also calls on all our corporations, executive committees' Palestinian national personalities and religious leaders to concert their stand and announce their rejection of the civilian administration. They should also reject the decisions of the military rule which dismissed the mayor and municipal council members of Al-Birah and the Nabulus and Ramallah mayors. They should assert that the stand of our people's representatives faces the authority with realities of the national stand and its unity thus slamming the door on occupation methods.

We also call on chambers of commerce, universities, vocational and professional unions, clubs, religious bodies and societies to express the interests and stands of those they represent and their people's national interest. Long live our struggling national unity under the PLO. Glory and immortality to our noble martyrs. More strength and health for our wounded. Greetings of struggle to sons in occupation prisons. Let us with our unity foil the occupation authorities' repressive measures.

Signed: head and members of the Nabulus Municipal Council

PLO'S ABU BAKR HOLDS PRAGUE PRESS CONFERENCE

AU051253 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Apr 82 p 2

["(MD)"-signed report]

[Text] Prague, 1 Apr -- "The Palestinian people on the West Bank of Jordan and in Gaza protest against the Israeli intention to annex these territories by a popular uprising," Atif Salim Abu Bakr, head of the PLO representation in the CSSR, declared this Thursday in Prague at a press conference organized under the auspices of the Czechoslovak Journalists Union and the Czechoslovak Committee of Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa and Asia.

The press conference was also attended by (Khalim Shatat), representative of the Palestine Communist Party, and Ibrahim Malik, representative of the Israeli Communist Party to the periodical problems of peace and socialism.

The head of the PLO representation also stated that it has been unambiguously proved that the Camp David agreements are not at all the beginning of a peaceful solution, but a military pact headed by the United States. He pointed out that the Israeli occupation authorities have already confiscated 37 percent of the fertile soil on the West Bank of Jordan and in Gaza; in the valley of the Jordan River the figure is as high as 40 percent. "Thus, peace, according to Israeli notions, means in practice annexation, the expulsion of the Arab population from their territory and the destruction of their material and cultural riches," he emphasized. He said further that the bloody, repressive character of the Israeli occupation authorities was particularly manifested after the absolute failure of their efforts to push through the so-called autonomy and civil administration and by their efforts to find their own political and social support among the collaborationist elements, which Israel is striving to mobilize as a substitute leadership for the PLO on the occupied territories.

The representative of the Palestine Communist Party spoke of Israeli reprisals; he stressed that all that is now happening will be the prelude to a definite annexation of these Arab territories if the international community does not resolutely act against [nevystoupi] the ruthless Israeli policy. He stated further that the Palestinian people highly appreciate the socialist countries' international attitudes and concrete assistance.

The representative of the Israeli Communist Party to the periodical problems of peace and socialism expressed the conviction that the stormy events in the occupied territories will deepen the crisis of the present Israeli regime.

FATAH OFFICIAL RECEIVES USSR SOLIDARITY DELEGATION

JN061634 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Abu Salih ['Abd al-Jawwad Salih] yesterday received a Soviet solidarity delegation currently visiting Lebanon to participate in the day of the land celebrations. The delegation includes the vice president of the Soviet writers union and the secretary of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee. The delegation discussed with Abu Salih the political situation in the area. Abu Salih praised the Soviet Union's support for the Palestine cause, stressing the role of the confrontation front and pointing to the mounting threats resulting from the uprising in the occupied territories. Abu Salih also expressed his satisfaction with the results of the Syrian-Palestinian talks intended to consolidate confrontation of the Israeli enemy and U.S. imperialism.

FATAH OFFICIAL RECEIVES CANADIAN DELEGATION

JN061632 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Fatah Central Committee and deputy commander in chief of Al-'Asifah forces, yesterday received a Canadian parliamentary delegation. The meeting was attended by the Canadian charge d'affaires in Beirut and the director of the West European Affairs at the PLO Political Department, Abu Yahya. The 1 and 1/2 hour meeting dealt with current situation and Abu Jihad reviewed the developments of the Palestine cause and the dangers threatening it, the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories and the Israeli occupation authorities' repressive action there.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL ON RECENT ISRAELI THREATS

NC070832 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Brother Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], Fatah Central Committee member and chief of the central operations room of the joint forces, has affirmed that the assassination of the Zionist diplomat in Paris is an Israeli intelligence act aimed at creating an excuse to launch an aggression on the PLO and southern Lebanon. He said: The scare tactics and psychological warfare used by leaders will not frighten the PLO nor weaken the Palestinian people's determination to attain their full goals and establish an independent state. Brother Abu al-Walid affirmed that our military forces are ready to face any Zionist aggression.

SRI LANKA GRANTS PLO COMPLETE DIPLOMATIC STATUS

JN061720 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 April 82

[Text] The Government of Sri Lanka today decided to grant complete diplomatic status to the PLO office. Official sources said the government adopted this decision in appreciation of the just Palestinian cause and in solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people to achieve their legitimate rights to self-determination and to establish their own independent state on their national soil under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

OPEC PRESIDENT MAY CALL EMERGENCY MEETING

NC041338 Paris AFP in English 1321 GMT 4 Apr 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Apr (AFP) -- OPEC president Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah has said he would call for an emergency meeting of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries if the international oil companies persisted in pressuring certain members to reduce their official prices.

Dr al-'Utaybah, who is also United Arab Emirates (UAE) minister of petroleum and mineral resources, was commenting on recent press reports that the organisation might hold an emergency meeting Monday to discuss what action it should take against the companies which have stopped lifting from Nigeria.

He said there was no time limit for holding such a conference.

"I will call for such a meeting any time we find necessary, without confining ourselves to a time limit, whether be it after a week or days," he told reporters today.

However, Dr al-'Utaybah said OPEC's four-nation monitoring committee, which was formed at the Vienna emergency meeting March 19 under his chairmanship, would hold a meeting "before the end of this month" to discuss possible future developments in oil supplies.

Asked to confirm reports that some multi-national oil companies were considering a halt on their destockings to start rebuilding thier strategic reserves after they reached low records, al-'Utaybah said only that "this would be part of our discussions".

The committee also comprises the oil ministers of Venezuela, Indonesia and Algeria.

He stressed that the 13 OPEC member-states were "committed" to defending Nigeria against the pressures of the multi-nationals to reduce its prices, which have pushed down its production quota to a record low of about 630,000 barrels per day [B/D] from 1.8 million B/D earlier this year.

"OPEC has the reasons and means that would enable it give Nigeria its quota (of 1.3 million B/D) according to our Vienna agreement, and also to defend our base price of dollars 34 a barrel", Mr al-'Utaybah said.

The oil ministers have agreed to set a production ceiling not exceeding 17.5 million barrels per day for their 13 countries for the months of April and May, down from their previous level of 19 million barrels per day, in order to absorb the world oil glut and defend their pricing structure.

Mr al-'Utaybah confirmed that "all OPEC members" were abiding by the agreement and that current production was less than 17.5 million B/D.

Referring to press reports that prices at the spot market have increased slightly during the week by about 1.5 dollars a barrel, he said, "this was normal after OPEC's decision.

"We believe that the market will take a more normal shape during the coming weeks, with a trend towards a more balanced supply and demand structure," he added.

Mr al-'Utaybah was also critical of the international oil companies for moving to pressure a relatively-small producer like Ecuador to reduce its oil prices. "These companies are playing a negative role in fighting OPEC and pressuring our prices, creating enormous economic and political problems," he said. "Their position towards Nigeria is the best example."

BAHRAIN

GCC PLANNING MINISTERS CONFERENCE OPENS 6 APR

GF061210 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Manama, 6 Apr (WAKH) -- Meetings of the first GCC planning ministers' conference began in Manama today under the chairmanship of Saudi Planning Minister Hisham Nazir.

The GCC planning ministers will discuss a working paper prepared by a committee of experts made up of the GCC planning ministry under secretaries. The paperlists various issues including the definition of goals of GCC development plans, the basic principles for social and economic integration among GCC members, and means to be employed in implementing the stages of this integration.

The committee of experts also recommended the definition of development priorities in the present stage. The priorities will include the labor force, population policy, basic equipment as well as the issue of food security.

The first session of the GCC planning ministers' conference concluded at 1300 today and will be resumed later today. During the session the conferees reviewed agenda topics pertaining to planning policy of GCC countries. The conference is expected to conclude this evening after discussing topics on the agenda.

Arab League Delegation Arrives

GF051355 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] An Arab League delegation headed by Dr 'Abd al-Muhsin (Zalzalah), Arab League assistant secretary general, arrived in Bahrain this afternoon to study the possibility of incorporating some projects in Bahrain in the unified Arab plan. The delegation was received at the airport by 'Isa 'Abdallah Burshid, under secretary of the Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

Amir Receives League Official

GF061541 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received at 0900 today Dr 'Abd al-Muhsin (Zalzalah), Arab League assistant secretary for economic affairs, who paid a courtesy call on the occasion of his visit to Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Mr 'Isa 'Abdallah Burshid, under secretary of the Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

WAKH has quoted Dr (Zalzalah) as saying that he was honored by meeting the amir and that he briefed him on the task assigned to him by the Arab League for the purpose of intensifying joint Arab economic work. He said that he received the wise directives of the amir with regard to the role of Bahrain in the Arab economic field. He said in his statement that he briefed the amir on his views regarding the joint Arab economic projects expected to be established in Bahrain. The Arab League assistant secretary general said that the amir blessed this joint economic plan because of its positive impact on the joint Arab work. In concluding his statement Dr (Zalzalah) expressed his hope that there will be an opportunity to discuss the details of the joint economic plan adopted by the Arab League with officials in Bahrain.

GCC Secretary General Arrives

GF051446 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Manama, 5 Apr (WAKH) -- GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah today arrived in Manama to attend the GCC planning ministers first meeting, which begins on 6 April. He was received at the airport by Mr Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, Bahraini development and industry minister and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs.

GCC Planning Ministers Arrive

GF061735 Doha QNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Manama, 6 Apr (QNA) -- Mr Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi, Omani deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, and Mr Sa'id al-Ghabbash, the UAE planning minister, arrived today in Manama to attend the first conference of the GCC planning ministers which will begin its meetings in Manama at a later time. Saudi Planning Minister Mr Hisham Nazir has also arrived to take part in the conference.

WAKH reported that the planning ministers will discuss the final report which will be submitted by the GCC planning ministers experts committee. This report deals with the development goals of the GCC countries and means of achieving these goals, and also focuses on manpower and population policies and on food security in accordance with the policies of the GCC countries.

Planning Ministers Meet Amir

GF062012 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1845 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Manama, 6 Apr (WAKH) -- Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, received in Manama today the GCC planning ministers and 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, the GCC secretary general, who are participating in the first GCC planning ministers conference which began in Manama today. The audience was attended by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister, and Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, minister of planning and industry and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs.

KUWAIT

KUNA CITES REMARKS AT OPENING NONALIGNED SESSION

LD061646 Kuwait KUNA in English 1000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 6 April (KUNA) -- Kuwait's deputy premier, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Shaykh as-Sabah al-Ahmad, inaugurated here this morning the meetings of the Non-Aligned Coordination Bureau on the Palestine problem.

The three-day meetings are attended by 24 bureau members, 30 non-aligned observers, eight regional and international organisations and five observers not members in the movement.

The meeting session of the three-day conference was also addressed by the PLO chairman, Yasir 'Arafat; the president of the United Nations General Assembly, Ismat Kittani; and the Cuban foreign minister, Isidoro Malmierca.

The 34-member Coordinating Bureau session is also attended by observers representing 54 non-aligned nations during the three-day meetings at the Holiday Inn.

The conferees will evaluate the situation and adopt practical measures to consolidate comprehensive assistance to support the struggle of the Palestinian people for the attainment of their inalienable rights and their exercise in full freedom under the leadership of the PLO.

The General Assembly president, Ismat Kittani, said Israel is defiantly refusing to comply with the repeated General Assembly calls for withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and end its atrocities there.

A vast majority of the international community firmly believe that justice can only be served if the Palestinians exercise their inalienable rights, including their right to establish their own independent state, and that no peace can be attained without the active participation of the PLO in any peace settlement, he said.

The fact that an entire extraordinary meeting of the bureau, at the ministerial level, is being devoted exclusively to Palestine reflects concern at the continuity of absence of a solution and sense of urgency on the part of the movement to find a just solution to the problem.

Kittani said the United Nations is qualified and capable of resolving world problems and disputes if member states who chose either to flout the resolutions and decisions of the international community or prefer to work outside the United Nations system refrain from so doing.

A mere repetition of resolutions repeatedly adopted will bring the world no closer to the solution sought. What is required now is a firm commitment to the implementation of the existing resolutions, he said.

The Non-Aligned Movement has a major role to play in working for the success of the international conference, which the General Assembly has called for in an attempt to make some progress towards the settlement of the crisis.

Secretary general of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, Habib Chatti, delivered a speech in which he hailed the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories saying the current uprising there demonstrates the Palestinians' determination to reject any sort of dealing with the Israeli occupation authority.

In reference to the dismissal of the West Bank mayors and the establishment of the village league, Chatti said "We are faced by a well-organized design which Israel has been relentlessly implementing since the establishment of the Zionist entity."

He castigated Israel's brutalities against residents of the occupied territories and expansionist policies that have so far led to the annexation of Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights.

He also vehemently criticised the U.S. and its Western allies for supporting Zionism and pressuring some Arab countries to adopt pro-American attitudes towards the main cause of Arabs and Muslims and to impose the Camp David accords on the region.

Indicating that too much has been said about the Palestinian question, he called for action and planning "to isolate the United States and Israel from the rest of the world."

He called the meeting to adopt measures not resolutions, and to extend support to the Palestinian people, saying that their rights should not be deliberated because they are already established. Instead, the fulfilment of the Palestinian goals is to be the major point for discussion, he added.

Conference Opening Speech

LD061412 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Speech delivered by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Kuwaiti foreign minister and minister of information, at the opening session of the Nonaligned Countries' Coordination Bureau's extraordinary meeting held in Kuwait on 6 April -- recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Mr President, brothers:

I have the honor of conveying to you the greetings of His Highness Shaykh Habir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, and his hopes for your meeting to achieve the results to which you aspire. I also have the pleasure to welcome you to Kuwait and to express to you sincere wishes for success in achieving the best results aspired to by this meeting.

I am very pleased to find among us His Excellency Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, who is leading the struggle of his people to achieve their aspirations and hopes, aspirations and hopes for which this meeting is being held to confirm and to realize.

Without any doubt, brothers, the Nonaligned Movement has worked with complete harmony and according to its lofty principles when it decided to convene an extraordinary meeting to discuss a fundamental issue of the nonaligned states, namely the Palestinian question, and with the aim to reach the best methods of supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people for their inalienable national rights. It is clear that the Nonaligned Movement's support for the struggle of the Palestinian people is in fact support for the principles of right and justice in which we all believe. Since our faith is absolute about the impossibility of splits within the causes of justice and peace in the world, we believe that this meeting represents a tributary flowing in the course of world peace, which represents a fundamental aim of the Nonaligned Movement.

Brothers, the basic problem we have been facing in this region over 30 years is the blatant aggression against the Palestinian people, the attempt to usurp their land, the attempt to make them destitute and to establish the expansionist, racist, Zionist entity in the region. This Zionist entity has managed to cause four wars and to expand across neighboring Arab territories and areas through occupation and (?invasion), a matter which threatens the safety and security of the region as well as the security and stability of the world.

It has become very clear that the major powers which from the start set up this expansionist, racist, aggressive entity in the region are the powers which have continued to back and support it. To cite an example, there is nothing clearer than the recent use of the U.S. veto at the UN Security Council. The United States used its veto to foil the draft resolution calling for sanctions against Israel.

The peace-loving international community, headed by the Nonaligned Movement, has declared that Israel's annexation of the Golan is null and void, constitutes a continued threat to international peace and security, and that the Zionist entity is not a peace-loving member of the international community. It is natural for the international community to denounce the U.S. attitude and express its deep regret over the use of the veto by the United States at the Security Council in support of Israel in its aggression on the Syrian Golan Heights. It is also natural that the Arab League, at the extraordinary meeting of the Arab foreign ministers recently held in Tunis, should express its condemnation of the United States and some European states and others which support Israel in its aggression towards the Arab states and should call for the formation of a committee to make a reappraisal of political and economic relations between the Arab states and the states supporting Israel.

Brothers, the Palestinian people have continued to struggle in order to regain their rights, land and properties. They are supported in this struggle by the peoples of the Arab nation and all forces which cherish peace and justice, led by the Nonaligned Movement. This support has its effect in the strengthening of the Palestinian people's steadfastness inside and outside the occupied territories under the PLO leadership, which was able to obtain the recognition of the international community as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people's struggle to regain all their inalienable rights.

Today, we find ourselves facing a serious and direct threat through a comprehensive military assault to be launched by the Zionist occupation army via southern Lebanon to liquidate the Palestinian presence there, and ultimately to drag the entire region into a new war. This new war aims at the reorganization of the situation according to the aims of the Zionist expansionist plans and according to what is suitable to the aims of other alliances which oppose peace in this vital and sensitive part of the world.

The treacherous Zionist occupation is practicing against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories -- particularly in the West Bank and the Gaza sector -- the ugliest forms of subjugation and oppression, violating all human and international principles and rights, and applying its own oppressive laws and measures. There is no doubt that the Zionist enemy does not intend to abandon even 1 inch of the occupied territories willingly; in fact, the Zionist leadership daily declares that Greater Israel, which knows no bounds, is the goal which they are working toward.

The continued acts of aggression on the holy places in holy Jerusalem and the excavations under the foundations of the blessed Al-'Aqsa Mosque as well as building a canal between the Mediterranean and the Dead Seas, and diverting the waters of the River Jordan to the Lake of Tiberius, are some of the projects which have been made public by the occupation authorities within the framework of their aggressive aims and plans. The large and increasing number of settlements which have been built and are being built on the Arab land confiscated from their legitimate Arab owners by force will encircle the Arab towns. These settlements alone give an ugly picture of the reality of the racist settlement occupation which Israel embodies in the region.

Israel has tried to deceive the international community with the so-called administrative self-rule for the inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza sector, but this attempt has utterly failed; its aims have been exposed and have become quite clear from the declared texts of this plan and from the interpretations made by Israel as well as from the practices of the occupation authorities to implement the plan in the occupied areas. From all this it has become quite clear right from the beginning that this plan only aims at perpetuating and consolidating the occupation (?in) the West Bank, the Gaza sector and holy Jerusalem. Therefore, the plan was rejected by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of this people.

Today we are witnessing the escalation of the popular Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas -- the uprising in which the Palestinian people are encountering the ugliest and most violent Israeli means of oppression. This uprising is but a continuation of the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people who will not accept an alternative for their right to freedom and self-determination. This uprising is a true expression of this people's categorical rejection of the so-called self-rule, the civil administration and other projects which Israel wants to impose by force.

The oppressive measures which led to the dismissal of the elected mayors in the West Bank and to the adoption of the most severe measures against them can only mean that Israel is bent on the annexation of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza sector.

Brothers, we would like to stress once more that we reject any bilateral or partial agreements which violate the Palestinian people's rights. What is happening in the occupied Arab territories totally contradicts all the bases of a just and comprehensive peace which have been approved by the international community.

Brothers, we all realize the extreme importance of the continuation of relations of friendship and cooperation among the nonaligned states so that they can play their role as an effective factor in propagating and perpetuating peace and cooperation within the international community, and so they can stand united in confronting the joint dangers and problems which our states are encountering in the current atmosphere of international tension. For this reason, it is our duty to speedily, and without any hesitation, embark on the repairing of any crack in the relations among the member-states of the Nonaligned Movement.

We very much regret the outbreak of the armed conflict betwen two member-states of our movement, Iraq and Iran. It is only natural that the Nonaligned Movement should strive toward halting this conflict which is harmful not only to the two neighboring states but also to international peace and security. We have also expressed our support for the corresponding efforts of the Islamic Congress Organization and the United Nations. We very much regret that these efforts have so far been fruitless. Here it is our duty to realize the serious nature which the continuation of this tragic conflict entails within our movement. We must concentrate our efforts in order to secure an immediate halt to this conflict and to strive to solve it peacefully according to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. We must strive to find a solution so that a continuation of this conflict will not give the big powers an opportunity to create intrigue between us and to capitalize on our differences and problems to consolidate their own influence at the expense of the interests of all our peoples.

We hope that these efforts will lead to putting an immediate end to this regrettable conflict and to contribute toward the consolidation of security and stability in the Gulf region.

In this connection I should also stress the true desire of the member-states of the Gulf Cooperation Council to participate in everything which is apt to consolidate the bases of stability and progress in this region and to move forward the wheel of cooperation among its member-states. I would like to repeat and stress before you, brothers, that this council has not and will not be a bloc against anyone, but a natural expression of the nature of the relations among the council member-states and their peoples.

In conclusion, brothers, I would like to repeat my best wishes for your success in reaching at this meeting the expected results to settle the Palestinian question, which will no doubt have a positive effect at this critical state. On the occasion of the approach of your forthcoming meeting in Havana which will prepare the agenda for the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned states to be held in Baghdad, and its final declaration, I wish you total success. We are of the opinion that among the tasks of this forthcoming meeting of the Coordination Bureau is to reaffirm the resolution regarding the venue and date of convening the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned states in order to reaffirm our commitment to all that we agree on. Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

'Arafat Address

JN061642 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] PLO chairman 'Arafat today addressed a Nonaligned Coordination Bureau meeting in Kuwait and affirmed that the Nonaligned Movement is firm and consistant and that it was established in today's world fulfilling an urgent need to defend the future of our people. 'Arafat referred to the difficulties facing the Third World and said what is happening in several areas around the world is a reflection of the imperialist policy of power and its products such as Zionism, fascism and racial discrimination.

'Arafat called for an immediate end to the Iraq-Iran war as a matter of high priority. He went on to praise the resolutions issued by the Nonaligned Movement conferences that expressed full support for the Palestinian people's rights.

'Arafat then spoke about the popular uprising in the occupied territories which is being subjected to Israeli oppression and being faced with the Israeli war machine supplied by world imperialism headed by the United States.

'Arafat called for the support of the Palestinian people saying that the current concentration of Israeli forces to launch an operation against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, and what south Lebanon has witnessed in the way of Israeli crime, would be of the ugly and continued conspiracies executed by the Zionist enemy.

Malmierca Speech

FL061535 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1314 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Report from Kuwait special PRELA correspondent Edel Suarez read by unidentified announcer -- live]

[Text] Cuba's Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca urged nonaligned countries to put an end to Israeli aggressions and expansionism and to halt the actions of those who encourage it. The Cuban foreign minister addressed this call to all foreign ministers who are present here today at the extraordinary meeting of the Coordinating Bureau, thus stating his solidarity with the Palestinian cause at the bureau's opening session which took place this morning.

Speaking as chairman of the Coordinating Bureau, the Cuban minister said that nonaligned countries currently have a greatly increased responsibility in the Palestinian affair and therefore stronger efforts and firm solidarity is required. Malmierca said that in the history of struggle, sacrifice and heroism of the Palestinian people there has never been a time which more urgently demanded a unity of will and action from us.

Further on the Cuban foreign minister indicated that Israel would not have been able to go on with its aggressive and expansionist policy had it not been for the material and political support which it receives from its main ally. To prove this, it would suffice to take a look at Washington's recent decisions concerning Israeli authorities, the sustained economic aid and press campaign of the U.S. news media and news agencies favorable to the United States.

The chairman of the Coordinating Bureau said that the days which preceded the meeting which opened today were especially outrageous and sorrowful for the cause of the Palestinian people. The Cuban foreign minister mentioned recent events in the West Bank and Gaza where a dozen Palestian patriots have been murdered, the terrible threat looming over Palestinian resistance and Lebanese sovereignty over the southern part of that country, and the annexation of Syrian territory encompassing the Golan Heights.

The PRELA report concludes by pointing out that ever since its creation the Nonaligned Movement has been giving support and solidarity to Arab countries and the Palestinian people and the Cuban foreign minister indicated that the latest summit meeting held in Havana in September 1979 issued a declaration setting down the essential guidelines for the solution of the Palestinian problem.

Minister Malmierca also read the report on the Palestinian affair which the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, Commander Fidel Castro, submitted to the 34th UN Assembly when reporting on the results and decisions of the sixth summit meeting of nonaligned countries.

Velayati Addresses

LD062034 Tehran IRNA in English 1937 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (IRNA) -- Pointing out that fighting imperialism had always been Iran's foremost objective, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today urged the world's oppressed to rise up against the cancerous tumour of the Zionist regime. Addressing the extraordinary meeting of the Non-Aligned Conference on the Palestinian issue which convened in Kuwait today, Dr. Velayati blamed the U.S. for the homelessness of the Palestinian people since it was responsible for the creation of the illegal entity of the Zionist state.

Warning the conference of the hegemonist nature of the Zionist regime, the foreign minister quoted Imam Khomeyni to the effect that the insatiable appetite of the Zionists aimed at grabbing everything from the "Nile to the Euphrates." Dr. Velayati bewailed the silence of world public opinion created by imperialist mass media towards Zionist crimes in Palestine and rhetorically asked how long this lethal silence would last.

Referring to imperialist policies designed to convince public opinion of the Zionist regime's alleged legal right to Palestinian land, Velayati said that it gave the Zionists a superficial gloss of power by helping it massacre Palestinians.

He added that in truth the Zionists had no right to Palestine, and if one was was to consider peaceful co-existence, this right [word indistinct] to belong firstly to the Jewish Palestinians who had peacefully lived for long with the Muslims of Palestine but who were now brutalised by the likes of Begin, Sharon and others.

He then expressed his surprise and sorrow over some so-called Islamic regimes which had adopted such a passive stance in the face of the enemy. He added that those regimes were not aware of the U.S.'s real intents in dividing them and making them accept the Zionist regime, hence paving the way for world imperialism to rule over the region.

Citing Camp David as one of these schemes, he said the Arab Muslim nation would never succumb to those plots. Referring to some instances of the Palestinian peoples' armed struggles the foreign minister again stressed the only solution left for the nation of Palestine was a jihad (holy war) empowered with a martyrdom-seeking morale.

He further added that the Zionist enemy, in order to realise its expansionist objectives, threatens to occupy the south of Lebanon and annex the Syrian Golan Heights at the same time that it airs proposals for returning the remainder of the Sinai. The Zionist regime has further dissolved the city councils of the occupied Palestinian cities and has arrested the mayors of these cities who had been elected by the people. Fortunately, he continued, the justice-seeking Muslim nation of Palestine has always recognised the dimensions of the Zionist plots and have heroically stood against them.

By participating in the Non-Aligned Movement and conferences Iran, he said, could not be satisfied only by declaring moral support for the rights of Palestinians, but rather believes the foreign minister stressed, that it is only through the complete unity of the Muslim forces and members of the Non-Aligned Movement as well as all out support of all the oppressed of the world, that the rights of the people of Palestine and liberation of the occupied Palestine from the Zionist usurpers will become possible.

In the continuation of his address, Velayati once again, touched on the principles proposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the recent special session of the United Nations concerning the issue of the Syrian Golan Heights.

Among these principles proposed were, rejection of all political solutions provided by Zionist and imperialist circles, non-reliance on the resolutions and approvals of the international organization, withdrawal of financial and foreign exchange reserves deposited by the members of the Non-Aligned Movement in countries which are supporting the usurper Israel economically, politically and militarily, all out political, economic, military and moral support for the members of the Arab steadfastness front especially Syria, the PLO organization, and the Muslim people of south Lebanon, against the Zionist aggression, and finally unconditional support for the heroic stand of the Palestinians in the occupied lands.

In the continuation of his speech, Velayati told the audience that the awakened nation of Palestine must be assured that the Zionist regime could not impose the Camp David accord on the Palestinians through removing the mayors elected by the Palestinians and dissolving the city councils in the occupied areas.

Touching on the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, the foreign minister said that the war imposed on Iran was a clear case of violation of the principles upon which the movement was founded, and especially the principle of non-aggression. He further reiterated that defending the rights of the Muslim nation of Palestine was a principal goal of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

In the closing part of his speech, Velayati once again stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran was not at war with any country either Muslim or non-Muslim and was rather inclined towards peace and friendship for all.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has so far been defending itself which was considered a God-given and human right for everybody. He further added that his country had no intention of committing an act of aggression against other countries and wanted all the Muslim countries to stand beside one another for the rights of the Muslims and the Muslim countries against aggressors such as aggressor Israel.

PLO REJECTS EGYPTIAN MUTUAL RECOGNITION PROPOSAL

LD070838 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0709 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 7 Apr (KUNA) -- The extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Office is to resume work here today on how to provide further support for the Palestinian question after hearing an Egyptian call for a new Middle East initiative based on mutual and simultaneous recognition between the Palestinian people and Israel.

However, this call, which was made at last night's session by the head of the Egyptian delegation to the meeting, Egypt's permanent representative to the United Nations Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, was immediately and categorically rejected by the PLO.

In his speech Dr 'Abd al-Majid did not refer to the need for Israel to recognize the PLO. However, he said that Egypt considers the organization as representating the Palestinian people.

The Egyptian representative is the first senior official to attend a meeting at such a level in an Arab country since Egypt was expelled from the Arab League and was boycotted by the majority of the Arab states after its former president Anwar as-Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

He announced that Egypt called on the Nonaligned Movement "to think about an initiative based upon mutual and simultaneous recognition between the Palestinian people and Israel, a mutual recognition of the rights and commitments of each side to the other."

However, the head of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, immediately rejected the Egyptian proposal.

In a statement published this morning by the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, he said: "We reject this proposal chapter and verse and attach no hopes to it, especially since Egypt has relations with Israel through the Camp David accords."

Dr 'Abd al-Majid's speech about the Middle East question ignored Egypt's conciliatory march with Israel, condemned repeatedly by the Nonaligned Movement. However, he stressed that Egypt "is part of the Arab nation; moreover it is a major member of the Arab body in which it lives and without which that body cannot live."

He said that "Egypt has made major contributions to the service of the Arab nation in all its development stages and is bound to be conscious of this natural responsibility which is dictated to it by its position."

CHATTI: IRAN, IRAQ AGREE TO MEDIATION ATTEMPT

LD061510 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1416 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (KUNA) -- Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Congress Organization, met here this evening with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Mr Chatti stated that the meeting dealt with the question of the next move by a mini-Islamic Good Offices Committee at the chairman's level led by President of Guineau Ahmed Sekou Toure. He added that such a move was accepted and welcomed by the Iranian foreign minister today and it was accepted and welcomed yesterday by Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi when he met with Mr Chatti.

Mr Chatti said that agreement has been reached that this move should begin during the second half or at the end of this month. He added that this acceptance expresses both sides' will and true desire to end the war between them.

Velayati on Peace Mission

LD070950 Tehran IRNA in English 0904 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 7 Apr (IRNA) -- Iranian Foreign Minister Dr Velayati met and conferred with peace mission members of Nonaligned Movement countries on Tuesday evening. During the meeting the Iranian foreign minister reiterated the three conditions Iran proposed for peace. He also said that Iran welcomed any mission coming to Iran to study the imposed war. But he stressed the mission should observe the three conditions proposed by Iran. The peace mission consisted of Zambia, India, Cuba and PLO representatives.

Dr Velayati also on Tuesday met with Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference. They discussed measures the Good Will Islamic Mission would take in the field of the Iraqi imposed war. Habib Chatti told reporters that new measures of the nine-man committee to the war would take place in late April.

Dr Velayati also met his Algerian counterpart Mohamed Ben-Yahia in Kuwait on Tuesday, as well as the Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao.

VELAYATI MEETS WITH KUWAITI, CUBAN OFFICIALS

LD051856 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] According to a report by the central news unit correspondent dispatched to Kuwait, Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign affairs minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, met this afternoon to discuss and exchange views on bilateral relations and regional issues. In addition, Isidoro Malmierca, the Cuban foreign relations minister and chairman of the extraordinary session of the foreign ministers of nonaligned countries, which is being held in Kuwait, at 1950 met and held talks with Mr Velayati, our country's foreign affairs minister, at the latter's residence. Their talks are still in progress.

Meets With Algerian Minister

LD061516 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1424 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 6 Apr (KUNA) -- Algerian Foreign Minister Mohammed Seddik Ben Yahia met here today with his Iranian counterpart Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati. Both ministers are participating in the extraordinary meeting of the Coordination Office of the Nonaligned Movement which began today. Political sources said that the Ben Yahia-Velayati meeting was within the framework of efforts being made by the countries attending the meeting to settle the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

PLO DENIES 'ARAFAT MEETING WITH IRAN'S VELAYATI

LD061738 Kuwait KUNA in English 1657 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (KUNA) -- An official source at the PLO denied Tuesday press reports claiming that the organization's Chairmen Yasir 'Arafat has met here with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The Palestinian source said the PLO dismissed as unfounded the report carried by an international news agency on the alleged meeting.

'ARAFAT CALLS FOR ARAB SUMMIT RESUMPTION

GF070621 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 5 Apr 82 p 24

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat has said that the Palestinian people are paying dearly for what took place at the recent Fes summit. He indicated that the Palestinian revolution is under enormous pressure at the present time and said: "We don't only face the Zionist enemy, we face the United States as well." Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] also called for the resumption of the Arab summit in order to deal with what followed the Fes summit.

During a speech to a meeting of Palestinian citizens in 'Ali Yasin's hall at the PLO office in Hawalli [in Kuwait], 'Arafat said the current stage is crucial and historic. He said: "The year 1982 is the year of changes in the Middle East. However, these changes will not be in the direction of a submission to plots but toward the Palestinian home." He indicated that the Palestinian resistance and Arab patriotic forces are capable of confronting these plots.

'Arafat stressed that he had addressed the Arabs many times "and I am still addressing them and saying that I don't want prayers, I want swords to confront the joint Zionist-U.S. defiance."

The chairman of the PLO's Executive Committee said: "The Zionist plot relies on Arab axes. I say this with regret. This is based on clear evidence. The region is being subjected to an invasion. However, we are optimistic. I reaffirm at this point that Palestine will not come back through a resolution from the Security Council or other international organizations, but through the gun."

Abu 'Ammar added: "The United States is deploying its 5th, 6th and 7th Fleets in the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean in order to encircle the Arab region." He described the Gulf war as a major threat and said: "We are against the continuation of this war because it is against our national and patriotic interests. This war is part of the changes I have spoken about or part of the prerequisite for changing the region's political map, a thing that the United States and world imperialism want to impose on us."

Talking about the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai he said: "I am not optimistic, but as Palestinians we do support Egypt's return to the Arabs under our national conditions. We are proud of our relations with the Egyptian patriotic movement on all levels. We do have contacts within the armed forces and with the patriotic forces in the Egyptian Army and people."

Concerning his meeting with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and acting information minister, 'Arafat said: "I have told him that the participation of 71 states in the meetings of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Bureau out of 94 member states is evidence that the issue of Palestine receives the attention of the world and this is the result of bloodshed of sacrifices made by our people."

Abu 'Ammar concluded his speech by saying: "I can see Jerusalem and victory just as I see you before me. The state is coming and it is only a matter of time."

EGYPTIAN NONALIGNED DELEGATE ON IRAQ-IRAN WAR

LD070942 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0824 GMT 07 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait 7 Apr (KUNA) -- Egypt's permanent UN representative, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, in a statement published by the Kuwaiti AS-SIYASAH states that any danger threatening the oil-rich Gulf region is considered a danger threatening the security and stability of Egypt.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid, at present in Kuwait attending the emergency conference of the Non-aligned Movement Coordinating Bureau which opened yesterday, said: "All the experiences through which the region has gone through during the recent historic period stress that Egypt's might is might for the Arabs and that Arab security is Egypt's security. Hence I believe that any danger threatening the security of the Arab people in the Gulf is at the same time a danger to Egypt, its security and stability."

He added that Egypt considers the danger threatening the Gulf region at the present time to lie in the continuing Iraqi-Iranian war, and said: "For this reason we call for an immediate halt to this war and the return of the parties to the negotiating table to start a peaceful dialogue to settle their differences after it has been proved that the war is incapable of settling or solving these differences." He pointed out that Egypt stands on the side of Iraq in the war it has been waging against Iran since September 1980.

He said that "Egypt, despite its support for peace as a strategic [word indistinct] in its Arab and international policy, affirms at the same time its responsibility and support for Iraq as an Arab and sister country within the framework of the Egyptian view of Arab solidarity and pan-Arab interests."

Dr 'Abd al-Majid, replying to a question about Egypt returning to the Arab ranks said: "It is bound to happen one day, and soon, namely after the differences between Egypt and the Arab state come to a halt. I consider that despite the difficulties, there is an understanding for past experiences and crises. We consider it a lesson from which we can benefit and feel that a correct view and practicality can be gained from these experiences."

Replying to another question about Egypt's readiness to take part in any Arab or international efforts if there is an agreement with definite ideas for an all-embracing solution to the Middle East crisis, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said, "Egypt welcomes any joint Arab action in this direction. We support the Saudi peace plan put forward by the crown prince and deputy chairman of the council of ministers, Prince Fahd, in view of the positive elements it contains, especially those connected with the point aimed at establishing peace among all the countries of the region."

Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that Washington "is anxious to push forward the peace march in the region, because stability in the region and maintaining U.S .interests in it are linked to the presence of this peace and to its continuation."

As for Egypt's stand on calling an international conference to settle the Middle East question, a proposal put forward by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: "If there are any means to realize this aim through an international conference affiliated to the United Nations, Egypt will support this step. However, this is not happening at present and each party has a position on this which it tries to impose."

AFGHANISTAN'S DOST MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

LD062044 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The DRA minister of foreign affairs, Shah Mohammad Dost, and his entourage arrived in Kuwait on 4 April.

He was welcomed by Khalid Ja'far, head of political affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait; the Afghan ambassador in Baghdad; the charge d'affairs of Kuwait; the Afghan ambassador in Baghdad; the charge d'affaires ani members of the Afghan Embassy in Kuwait.

Shah Mohammad Dost met with the foreign minister of Kuwait, Shaykh Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, yesterday and discussed major international topics and mutual cooperation, the Mideast situation andthe Palestine question. The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere.

Shah Mohammad also met yesterday with the minister of foreign affairs of Cuba, Isidoro Malmierca, and briefed him on the recent developments in the country, in particular the successful completion of the PDPA National Conference and events in the region; the Cuban foreign minister gave a comprehensive briefing to the Afghan foreign minister in Latin American issues, in particular the situations in Nicaragua, El Salvador and the Carribean region.

Both foreign ministers assessed the issues in the Middle East, especially the extraordinary conference of the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries called to discuss the Palestine question, and the Iran-Iraq war. They exchanged views, in an atmosphere of complete understanding, on the conference of the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries which will be held in Havana and on the upcoming conference of the heads of states of the nonaligned countries.

PARIS MAGAZINE INTERVIEWS USAMAH Al-BAZ

PM310945 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 29 Mar-4 Apr 82 pp 22-26

[Nihad al-Mashnuq interview with Egyptian Foreign Ministery First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Three years after the signing of the peace treaty with Israel the results seem contrary to the objective, for the treaty has not achieved the economic prosperity the Egyptian people were expecting, it severed Arab-Egyptian relations, and caused strain in Egypt's foreign relations outside the Western camp. Is this what Egypt was seeking?

[Answer] The signing of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and what preceded it was not a limited operation intended to achieve prosperity for the Egyptian people alone as some imagined. There are several interlinked considerations some of which are strategic, some are political, some others psychological, and yet others economic.

From a strategic standpoint there was great fear among ordinary Egyptian people, the decisionmakers, and the responsible military and political officials that the occupation of the Sinai, with the passage of each year, would constitute a great strategic danger to Egypt and to the security of the whole Arab area. We realized that Israeli occupation meant causing demographic changes to the locality and advancing historical, legal spiritual and security claims. Every Israeli faction has its own specific theories on which they base their claims. The Israeli Labor Party, for example, bases its territorial claims on security grounds and the Likud bloc and Herut Party in particular base their claim on the Israeli people's historical right in the Land of Israel.

What is important is the fundamental factor that prompted Egypt to sign the peace treaty is the same factor that prompted it to launch the 6 October 1973 war. The idea is one, namely to liberate Sinai from occupation. This withdrawal is bound to affect relations between the two countries. Israel's withdrawal behind the international borders will lead to the containment of the Israeli expansionist tendencies.

On the other hand this withdrawal should include civilians as well and not be confined soley to the military. Israel tried very hard by various means to obtain Egypt's approval to leave the Israeli settlers in Sinai and made several offers regarding the granting of Egyptian citizenship to them even if only temporarily. We refused as a matter of principle; we do not object to a Jewish presence but not in Sinai where there are Israeli ambitions.

Afterwards we tried to set up precedents to be followed in respect of other Arab fronts but implementation of these precedents might not be easy as Israeli opposition to withdrawal from the Golan is stronger and its opposition to withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza is even stronger yet. The most important thing is that a large number of Israelis are more psychologically ready to accept the removal of Israeli occupation from the territories and to give back the land occupied in 1967 to its owners.

We have also tried to set a pattern for the idea of peace between the Arabs and Israel and the basis on which peace is to be established. The Arab parties concerned, and particularly the confrontation states, accepted the idea of concluding peace with Israel at the end of 1967 when the basic Arab countries, namely Egypt, Syria, Jordan and later the Palestinians, began to accept the principle of peace but with certain reservations. Two points remained: The first is that the concept of peace was not clear in their mind. Is it peace in the narrow legal sense or in the broad political sense with its implications, repercussions and effects? The second point was this matter [peace] was remote; it is true that it was going to happen but it was deferred.

In Egypt the idea of peace after the October war to a great extent became likely. Psychologically and morally we have come to believe that we are in a position to obtain better conditions with Israel because under defeat no agreement can be equal. Psychologically the barrier caused by the 1967 defeat was removed.

The tendency was to approach peace as no more than a political framework; that is, ending the state of war. This state of affairs continued through the years 1973-1976 and a great part of 1977. It then became clear from Israeli policy and from the quarters that support and influence it in the United States and Europe that peace in the narrow political sense was not enough because Israel cannot possibly withdraw from a land in which a situation would be created that might lead to another war. It would withdraw only to "peace" borders. All the Israeli parties agree that the "peace" borders must be bridges of contact and not borders sealed with barbed wire. This was what led Egypt to accept the broad concept of peace.

In fact, following the signing of the treaty and when the implementation of the normalization of relations began, there were fears for the future. Many feared Israeli domination of certain apsects of Egyptian life, culturally and particularly economically. But these fears proved to be groundless and are decreasing all the time.

On the political level the treaty did not restrict the freedom of will and choice in Egypt. We deal absolutely freely in all foreign matters. We adopted stands against Israel at the United Nations and in other international arenas. We placed our stands on record with the same freedom as any other Arab party. We were the first Arab country to react to the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor and the first country that moved against the law annexing Jerusalem and the decision to annex the Golan Heights.

[Question] But you were the only Arab country to abstain from voting on the Arab draft resolution [on the Golan annexation] submitted to the General Assembly.

[Answer] We did not abstain from voting on the resolution. Our abstention was due to a particular clause in the resolution which calls on the countries to break relations with Israel. We must be true to our principles because we would be displaying hypocrisy if we were to vote for the resolution.

[Question] Nevertheless, Egypt could have voted for the resolution while making reservations about this clause.

[Answer] We cannot vote for a one clause in the resolution without voting for another. We explained our position at the Security Council and said that Israeli behavior is contrary to international law and hostile to peace but we cannot endorse the clause severing of relations. Let us be frank, has the resolution led to any countries breaking relations with Israel or committing themselves to the sanction measures stipulated in the resolution?

[Question] The inability to implement the resolution does not render it politically ineffective. What is required at this stage is at least a political resolution.

[Answer] A political resolution is to condemn the measure and to declare it null and void. But to move to the stage of imposing certain sanctions while knowing in advance that they will not be implemented lacks seriousness. The resolution on the annexation of Jerusalem was different altogether. There was enough international support for it to make the countries that have embassies in Jerusalem move them outside the city and this was what actually happened. But to ask for a resolution imposing sanctions that cannot be implemented means that such a resolution becomes mere ink on paper. For this reason we objected, particularly since we considered that taking the matter from the Security Council to the General Assembly was tantamount to backing down.

[Question] But the Arabs whom you say supported the idea of peace did not support President as-Sadat in his visit to Jerusalem. Moreover, you are equating the Arabs with Israel.

[Answer] This is not a question of equality in numbers or in figures. As a matter of principle and in order to understand the Egyptian approach, President as-Sadat's visit should be understood.

The idea that Egypt should take the first step toward the establishment of relations with Israel while the major Arab countries, particularly the confrontation states, approved of the idea of peace with Israel. It was on this basis that Syria agreed to participate in the Geneva conference as did Jordan and Lebanon while the PLO was seeking to take part in the conference.

The disagreement was confined to President as-Sadat's making a visit to Jerusalem. There was disagreement between him and President al-Asad over the visit itself but not over the principle of peace because Syria had already put on record its acceptance of peace with Israel although under certain conditions and requirements. Otherwise it would have rejected any Soviet or other peace initiative.

As for the question of equalization there is no equalization between the two sides. We are part of the Arab family and Israel is outside it. As long as we have accepted the principle of peace with Israel there are bound to be different interpretations regarding ways to implement it. But not to make any move at all is a totally unacceptable interpretation. The idea of waiting as we did with the crusaders or as the Spaniards did with the Arabs is wrong because the situation now is different and the dynamism of movement and the demographic changes are also different. We are now face to face with a state that has been established and its claims and demands are increasing, whether regionally or with regard to settlement. If we imagine that the West Bank and Gaza remained under Israeli control for another 10 years we would see a great deterioration in the strength of Arab rights. The demographic situation will also deteriorate and will change as the Israeli settlements become mingled with the Palestinian communities and so it will become difficult to decide whether this area is Palestinian or Israeli.

[Question] Do you want the Arabs to restore relations with Egypt and accept the peace treaty with Israel?

[Answer] The condition for the restoration of Arab-Egyptian relations is that there should be no conditions from either side. Egypt will not agree to any conditions being imposed on it. The Arabs are not a party to the peace treaty; it is a measure that Egypt took without abrogating its commitment to the Palestinian cause or its Arab commitment. Therefore, it can only be viewed as any other treaty that I might conclude with many other countries.

[Question] Do not you believe that Israel is looking for alternatives to the third part of Sinai, such as the Israeli threat to occupy southern Lebanon and the annexation of the Golan?

[Answer] No. The answer to this is that Israel was always resorting to such actions regardless of the treaty and before President as-Sadat's initiative. The question as far as we are concerned is that the Israeli withdrawal should not be regarded as a price for our silence over Israeli actions against any Arab side. In fact the withdrawal is something that Israel is paying in return for our commitment to the establishment of peace relations only. We have used our relations with Israel and the channels open to it in order to warn it of the consequences of carrying out operations in southern Lebanon. I cannot say if this has dissuaded Israel or prevented it from taking action. But unquestionably Egypt was the country that has spoken most to Israel on several occasions in order to warn it of the consequences of a military or semimilitary operation in southern Lebanon.

[Question] President Mubarak has called on the Arabs to hold a dialogue with Israel through Egypt instead of the United States. Do you believe that this should be Egypt's role?

[Answer] The meaning here is confined to the idea of the channel through which a procedure is conducted and not the stand that Egypt adopts. We are a party and not a medium. When we talk to Israel about an Arab problem we do so on the grounds that we are a party whose stand is quite well known, as is evident in President Mubarak's refusal to visit Jerusalem and other stands.

[Question] Since you call for Arab relations with Egypt do you believe that this will be realized shortly and how will this be carried out in practice?

[Answer] We realize that this is a complicated matter and will take time. But we say that what is most important is the tangible achievements realized last month. By a simple action the propaganda campaigns and the exchange of accusations has been stopped even with those countries that were still making accusations against us. We are not proposing nor dictating any formula for the improvement of relations because they are improving. As I said, when a suitable time comes for moving toward greater improvement and for the removal of the causes that have led to this gap, particularly the Baghdad summit resolutions. [sentence left unfinished] No one should imagine that 25 April will be a decisive historical point in this regard because some of the Arab brothers imagine that Egypt will be ready to break off relations with Israel in return for restoring relations with the Arabs. This thinking is wrong and groundless. We intend to continue to build peaceful relations with Israel and to normalize relations with her and, at the same time, continue to ask Israel to respond to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and to support Israeli withdrawal from the Golan. ▸

[Question] It was said that King Husayn sent a message to President Mubarak. Is this true and, if so, why Egypt did not respond to it?

[Answer] We have not received any messages in this regard and Egypt has responded to any messages it received whether they came from Sudan, Somalia or Oman. But there are officials in the Arab countries with whom we have relations who speak of what they believe to be a need for the restoration of relations and who would like to play a part in bringing about rapprochement.

[Question] It was said that Saudi Arabia financed the French Mirage deal for Egypt.

[Answer] This is absolutely not the case. The deal is financed by a long-term loan of 5 percent and the date of repayment has not yet been defined.

[Question] After trying full partnership with the United States for several years do you still believe that the Soviet Union should be excluded from the comprehensive settlement in the area?

[Answer] We do not say that the Soviet Union has no role in the area. It is a superpower which also has global interests and a presence everywhere. Therefore, there must be a Soviet role. For this reason Egypt has been anxious to invite the Soviet Union to attend the preparatory conference for Geneva that was held in Mena House [in Cairo]. But the Soviet Union's abstention and the abstention of the other Arab countries made the talks three-sided -- Egyptian-U.S.-Israeli -- and they continued to be so until the peace treaty was signed.

[Question] The United States is behaving according to the premise that Egypt is a U.S. sphere of influence and the director of U.S. aid makes statements to the Egyptian papers in which he says just as he pleases about Egyptian economic policy.

[Answer] Egypt is definitely not within the U.S. sphere of influence. We have maintained our freedom of action and we will not allow Egypt to become part of U.S. strategy nor will be permit Egypt to be used in order to preserve U.S. strategic interests.

Rather, we have friendly relations with the United States. Therefore, we always refuse to have U.S. bases in Egypt. Many Americans have called for the use of the two airfields built by Israel in Sinai in defending the area. We have completely rejected this and did not agree to any U.S. military presence or use of Egyptian territory in order to defend U.S. strategic interests. As for the U.S. AID director, he is not supposed, nor is it his business, to interfere with Egyptian economic policy. We take the views of experts simply as wishes expressed by parties concerned with studying economic conditions in general. We are the ones who draw up the economic policy on the basis of our own view of our interests.

[Question] What would be Egypt's stand if Israel were to overrun Lebanon before 25 April, which is something that is expected to happen?

[Answer] If Israel overruns southern Lebanon before or after 25 April our stand would be the same and is summed up as follows: We are against any operations by Israel outside its borders. We were against Israel's other actions, such as playing the Sa'd Haddad card [in southern Lebanon] and we have talked to the Israelis about the gravity of such a policy. President as-Sadat and later President Mubarak spoke to Israel about the danger of playing the game of Lebanese politics because it is important that all the parties should promote stability in Lebanon. Otherwise, the escalation of tension might reach a point where it will be difficult to control. I recall that four times, as a precautionary measure, we contacted Israel in order to prevent it from carrying out military operations. We also contacted European parties and the United States so that they too would contact Israel and take a firm line with it. I do not wish to exaggerate but I would say that we have contributed to activating the U.S. role through Habib's mission. Supposing that if, after all these precautionary measures, which, thank God, have so far succeeded, the situation in southern Lebanon exploded, we would devote all our attention to the situation and concentrate on halting such action immediately and on preventing reactions consequent upon it.

MONDAY MORNING INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER 'ALI

NC021232 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 29 Mar-4 Apr 82 pp 38-44

[By Muna As-Sa'id]

[Excerpts] Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated last week that Egypt rejected any unilateral Israeli action in the West Bank and Gaza and would make a "move" if the current situation in those occupied territories continued.

'Ali, who is also Egypt's deputy prime minister, was talking to MONDAY MORNING in a private interview in Cairo as reports of mounting violence in the West Bank and Gaza were pouring in.

The interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali was conducted in Arabic and English in his Cairo office on Monday, March 22, and subsequently updated up to Thursday, March 25. The following are the questions and answers:

[Question] Do you believe the Egyptian-Israeli border dispute can delay or abort the withdrawal from the Sinai?

[Answer] The dispute in the Tabah area is over minor points and limited areas. Specifically, there are 15 disputed points -- some no more than one meter in area, some around 190 centimeters and another involving around two kilometers. The total disputed area is no more than three or four kilometers.

The dispute is purely technical and non-political. We have exerted a joint effort -- on the technical level and the ministerial level, between Sharon and me personally -- and we have exhausted our experience as military men, but the dispute has remained.

We have now agreed that we should resort to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, which states, in its seventh article, that any dispute over interpretation or implementation must be settled by negotiations or by conciliation or by arbitration. Our talks at this stage are limited to the ways in which we can settle the dispute by referring to the treaty.

It is Egypt's opinion that the negotiation method has been exhausted, or almost exhausted, and therefore conciliation or arbitration is the way to end the dispute. It is Egypt's desire not to leave any loose ends in the future Egyptian-Israeli relationship, and that is also what the Israeli side wants. So we are still in the stage of consultation and discussion.

At any rate, this technical dispute will not delay the Israeli withdrawal from occupied Egyptian territory.

[Question] You say the way to end the dispute now is arbitration....

[Answer] This is one point which we are discussing with the Israeli side now: Have we exhausted the negotiations or not? In addition, we are discussing the status which the (disputed) area should have pending the settlement of the dispute.

[Question] When would the arbitration start?

[Answer] This must also be the subject of negotiations. Even if there is agreement on arbitration, there must be a period of negotiations on whether the arbitration should be local, bilateral or international. Who will arbitrate? The people we choose, the people they choose or some third party? There must be more negotiations.

[Question] And do you think all this can be done before April 25, when Israel is scheduled to withdraw?

[Answer] There is only a faint possibility that it can be done before the 25th. As a practical man, I must say that the time available is too short.

[Question] If it can't be done before April 25, does that mean that the withdrawal will be delayed?

[Answer] They will withdraw, and the withdrawal will be to the line that Egypt has indicated. What will remain is this little area: Under whose administration will it be, and until when, and how will the matter be settled? That is all. So even if the arbitration takes a long time, that will not affect the withdrawal.

[Question] Even with all the obstacles -- the border dispute and the troubles in the West Bank and Gaza -- the withdrawal will take place on schedule?

[Answer] Even with all the obstacles -- the border dispute and the troubles in the West Bank and Gaza -- the withdrawal will take place on schedule?

[Answer] God willing, it will, it will. If an obstacle comes up, we will eliminate it by negotiations, although we hope there will be no obstacles.

[Question] Has Dr Usamah al-Baz invited Minister Sharon to Egypt?

[Answer] The contact with Sharon is through me. I am the one who will call him, and we will agree on a date to resume talks on the question of the borders -- possibly at the end of this month or the beginning of next month.

[Question] Exactly what was the purpose of Al-Baz visit to Israel?

[Answer] He proposed certain Egyptian ideas. The Israeli Cabinet had proposed some ideas, and we came up with some ideas in a meeting on March 21 with President Husni Mubarak.

Now, following my talks in Israel on the 16th of this month and the message of President Mubarak to Premier Begin which was delivered by Dr al-Baz on the 23rd, the following principles have been agreed upon by the two sides:

First: Israel will withdraw to the Egyptian border line.

Second: Article 7 of the peace treaty (relating to the settlement of disputes by negotiation, conciliation or arbitration) will be applied.

Third: The disputed area will be kept as an area under dispute pending the results of the application of Article 7 of the treaty.

The forthcoming talks of Defense Minister Sharon in Cairo, within the framework of the high committee of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, will deal with ways and means of solving the dispute according to Article 7 of the treaty, and with the temporary status of the area under dispute.

[Question] So the message which Mr al-Baz took to Israel related to the border dispute only?

[Answer] It related to the border dispute and to the situation in the West Bank. Both matters are top priority as far as we are concerned.

[Question] How does Egypt view the deteriorating situation in the West Bank after the dissolution of the Al-Birah Town Council, the closure of the Bir Zayt University and the growing violence?

[Answer] We view it with great concern, actually, for a very simple reason: Since October 13, 1978 and during the negotiations on the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, Egypt has had a very clear and frank demand. It presented to the Israeli side a written document, which has been brought up on several occasions, containing suggestions on how to open the way for Palestinian participation in the autonomy talks. The paper contained around 20 confidence-building measures which the Israeli side was supposed to take (in the West Bank). Unfortunately, the Israeli side did not implement these measures, or rarely did.

We consider this -- indeed, we consider everything that is happening in the West Bank -- an obstacle in the way of possible Palestinian participation in the autonomy elections; in other words, an obstacle in the way of the autonomy negotiations. Furthermore, all this is creating a new reality in the West Bank which is diametrically opposed to the peace efforts in the region.

It is our hope that conditions in the West Bank will not deteriorate to a point which will make negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel impossible. That is our hope.

[Question] You don't think such negotiations are impossible now?

[Answer] I believe there is still a possibility. Egypt has a clear and public position on this matter: We have since August, and even before, been calling for mutual recognition between the Palestinians and Israel, and we have been saying that negotiations are the only answer at this stage.

All the parties concerned must come to their senses and adopt this line before it is too late.

[Question] There is a great deal of speculation that Israel may use its withdrawal from Sinai as a cover for another fait accompli -- the annexation of the West Bank (which, in fact, appears to be under way) or the invasion of Lebanon. How would Egypt react to either of these measures?

[Answer] The fact is that Egypt is trying, albeit by indirect means, to participate in the efforts to calm the situation on the Lebanese front. We are also trying to clarify our position regarding the West Bank. The very fact that we are continuing the autonomy talks indicates that we categorically reject any unilateral Israeli measure on the West Bank and Gaza or against their people.

This position, I believe, is very clear, and we hope that all parties will recognize the gravity of the situation and work for the good of the region. That is what we hope.

As for the possibilities, there is no doubt that there is a kind of tension in the region. I hope that the parties will understand this well, realize their national interests, and prevent a useless deterioration in the region at this very delicate stage. That is all I can say on this subject.

[Question] What will Egypt's position be if the current situation in the West Bank and Gaza continues?

[Answer] If this happens, there is no doubt that we will move, as the entire world will move, because Egypt, as I told you, has since Camp David known that the best solution -- indeed, the only one -- would be a quick solution through negotiations. And in this, Egypt has not gone beyond the Rabat (Arab summit) resolutions of 1974.

[Question] But it looks like Egypt has also proved that the solution is not accessible through negotiations, where the West Bank is concerned.

[Answer] That is because of the intransigence of all parties. That is one of the main reasons. It is a fact which we must all recognize. We are not a party like other Arab parties, but we have the same cause and we are an organic part of the matter. We had our own views, and we have proved the soundness of those views.

[Question] As an organic part of the matter, what will your position be if the intransigence remains and the situation on the West Bank stays as it is?

[Answer] We will continue to demand a solution for the problem of the West Bank and Gaza....

We are not going to reach a final agreement on the West Bank through Camp David. All we want is to reach headlines of agreement. It is up to the Palestinians to find out what is required. What do the Palestinians want?

[Question] They have repeatedly stated that they want an independent state.

[Answer] By what means? Their goal is clear, but what is the method? That is what we want to know. To this day, we don't know what the required method is. There are many ideas in the Palestinian arena, but so far, we don't know what they have decided on, and I believe that many other Arab countries still don't know what the Palestinians want exactly or what the best way to achieve it is. I believe this matter came up at the Fes (Arab summit) conference -- and I'm not saying this out of my own head. When the initiative of Prince Fahd was rejected, the Palestinians were asked: What is your view? What method do you want?

[Question] How would the annexation of the West Bank and an attack on Lebanon affect the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and Egyptian-Israeli relations?

[Answer] The treaty is a treaty. It has to be implemented in any circumstances. But surely, the feeling of the Egyptian people would be affected if there was an annexation of the West Bank and Gaza.

[Question] The annexation would not affect Egyptian-Israeli relations?

[Answer] It would affect the feelings of the people here.

[Question] Not the government?

[Answer] As a government, we would react like any other Arab government, and like the Europeans and the U.S. I think the U.S. would react as a full partner in Camp David.

[Question] By condemning the action?

[Answer] That's it.

[Question] But condemnation is no action, and it would certainly not prevent the Israelis from occupying....

[Answer] So what do you propose?

[Question} You told me earlier that you would make a move if the current situation on the West Bank continued.

[Answer] Yes, definitely.

[Question] What kind of move do you intend to make?

[Answer] I cannot tell you that. There are certain limits we cannot go beyond when we are talking to the media about our methods. We must keep something in our inside pocket.

[Question] You say the autonomy talks will continue, but there seems to be a disagreement over the venue, with Israel demanding that the talks be held in Jerusalem....

[Answer] The situation now is as follows: The U.S. has asked that the talks of the working groups be held in Washington on March 21, but so far we have not been informed by the U.S. what agreement has been reached with Israel. We have asked for a postponement of one week at least, pending agreement between the three states on the venue and date of the meeting.

[Question] What is your response to Sharon's statement that if the talks are not held in Jerusalem, it would be better to cancel them?

[Answer] We have expressed our view on this matter, and we are waiting for the opinion of the third partner.

Where Jerusalem is concerned, it must be noted that the autonomy talks have always been held outside Jerusalem, on the grounds that Jerusalem is one of the points of dispute in Egyptian-Israeli autonomy talks. That was the agreement with Israel, in fact: That the talks would be held outside Jerusalem and outside Cairo as well. For that reason, the talks have been held in Tel Aviv or Herzliyya in Israel and Giza in Egypt.

That was the Egyptian position that was communicated to the Israeli side. The United States, for reasons of its own, proposed that the talks be held in Washington, although they have not been held there for almost a year. That is where the matter stands today.

Where Egypt is concerned, we are seriously interested in continuing the autonomy discussions, either before or after April 25. That position will not change, because we want a comprehensive peace in the region and we believe that if we can agree on principles which the Palestinians may accept, that would be the first practical step towards that peace.

[Question] Do you expect agreement on the date and venue of the next autonomy talks meeting to be agreed on in the near future -- within a week, say?

[Answer] I hope so. I hope that within a week we can reach an agreement on this subject.

[Question] And what if Israel insists that the talks be held in Jerusalem?

[Answer] Let us wait and see.

[Question] President Mubarak has said that he will not give anything away on behalf of the Palestinians. What Palestinians is he talking about?

[Answer] Any Palestinians.

[Question] Is he ready to accept anyone other than the PLO as the representative of the Palestinians?

[Answer] Egypt's position is clear. The important thing is to ease the suffering of the people of the West Bank and Gaza through autonomy. And there is no doubt that in the future, the PLO will have a principle role to play regarding the stability of the region and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

[Question] But was President Mubarak talking about the PLO in that statement?

[Answer] He was talking about the Palestinians in general, but I am giving you more details.

[Question] You have been quoted as saying that President Mubarak's visit to Israel has been postponed. Does this mean that he will visit Jerusalem at a later date or that Israel may drop its "visit Jerusalem" condition?

[Answer] These questions will be the subject of discussion with the Israeli side. However, I don't think the visit will take place at this time. Some time will pass before the visit takes place.

[Question] In other words, President Mubarak will not visit Israel before the withdrawal from Sinai?

[Answer] That is a possibility.

[Question] Do you believe Israel will drop its condition that President Mubarak must visit Jerusalem?

[Answer] Let's leave that subject for the discussions.

[Question] Is there any truth to the reports that President Mubarak has sent a number of Arab leaders assurances that he will not visit Jerusalem?

[Answer] I don't believe that has happened.

[Question] In a message to Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat reportedly undertook to do his utmost to facilitate Egypt's return to the Arab fold. Do you have any return message to 'Arafat?

[Answer] We say, not only to 'Arafat but to all the Arabs, that we are placing no conditions for the return of Arab-Egyptian relations and no conditions must be imposed on us for the return of Egypt to the Arabs. We will neither place nor accept any conditions in this matter.

Our political line remains unchanged. It is clear, frank and public, and it serves the interests of the Arabs. I can refer you to statements made by some Arab leaders over the past few days which underscore the fact that the Egyptian line serves the interests of the Arabs.

[Question] Do you expect a return of Egyptian-Arab relations?

[Answer] The return is inevitable. It is the natural thing. Not to return would be the exception.

[Question] What is Egypt doing to facilitate the resumption of relations with the Arabs?

[Answer] Why should Egypt alone by the one to do anything?

[Question] Why should the Arabs alone work in that direction?

[Answer] So it should be a joint effort...

It's not a matter of who does anything or who takes the first step. Many measures have been taken against Egypt since Camp David, and the Arabs have a lot to do in this regard, especially since the estrangement did not come from Egypt. There must be a paving of the way for the resumption of relations. The measures adopted by past Arab summits (against Egypt) are still in effect. Can Egypt return to the Arabs or the Arabs to Egypt as long as these measures are there? I don't think so. These measures must be lifted by the Arabs either on a bilateral basis or on a collective basis.

[Question] In an interview with this magazine last week, Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal said that a "silent dialogue" has already started between the Arabs and Egypt. Do you agree? or has the dialogue gone beyond the stage of "sign language," as he put it?

[Answer] The expression "silent dialogue" is unknown in diplomacy. It could be acceptable in the world of journalism, but it is alien to diplomatic tradition.

What I can tell you is that there is no diplomatic contact between Egypt and the Arabs.

However, President Mubarak did refrain from commenting on any Arab attack on Egypt. That could be considered a sign, a second sign was his statement that the return of Egypt to the Arabs or the Arabs to Egypt was inevitable, because Egypt was Arab. In return, there were some Arab statements to the same effect. If this is what is called a silent dialogue, I agree.

[Question] When do you expect the reconciliation to take place?

[Answer] I think some time will pass -- though not a very long time -- before relations are restored. Let it take its time. During this time, as I said, the measures adopted in the Baghdad summit of 1978 should be relaxed; they should be evolved in a positive way. I don't think the matter needs more than that....

And I believe that the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations may be easier on a bilateral basis for some Arab countries.

[Question] But don't you think that the continuation of the autonomy talks and relations with Israel would rule out direct Egyptian-Arab relations?

[Answer] As I told you before, we neither place nor accept any conditions where the return of the Arab states to Egypt is concerned.

[Question] Do you think there is any possibility of Egypt attending the next Arab summit conference?

[Answer] I don't think Egyptian participation is possible in the present circumstances.

[Question] Do you think that Egypt's participation in the non-aligned countries' preparatory meeting in Kuwait and the non-aligned conference in Baghdad this year could be a first step towards the reconciliation?

[Answer] That has nothing to do with Egyptian-Arab relations. It is a matter that concerns the Non-aligned Movement, of which Egypt is a founding member. Our participation in the meeting of the non-aligned bureau in Kuwait or anywhere else is natural, and our non-representation would be abnormal and unacceptable to the Non-aligned Movement. Our attendance cannot be seen as a sign of any sort.

[Question] What peace process do you expect to be pushed forward after April? A continuation of the Camp David country-by-country approach? The international-conference approach? The Fahd peace plan?

[Answer] I believe that the current peace process will continue after April 25 -- be it on the bilateral Egyptian-Israeli level or on the level of the autonomy talks.

[Question] What about the Fahd plan?

[Answer] It has good objectives, including the seventh point (which implies recognition of Israel), but it lacks the dynamism that can lead to a solution. That dynamism usually comes as a result of agreement among the parties.

[Question] Several Arab analysts believe that the Americans will try to turn the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) into a forward post for the rapid deployment force, especially at Sharm ash-Shaykh. Would you comment on this suspicion?

[Answer] That kind of talk has been coming from various parts of the world. But I would like to stress that this has never entered our minds or the minds of the Americans. We have written assurances from the U.S. government that there is absolutely no connection between the two forces. And as a former military man, I don't see how 600 troops in Sharm ash-Shaykh can change the face of the globe. That kind of speculation is a bit far-fetched, illogical, with an element of fantasy in it.

[Question] U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has been quoted as saying that he is worried about the "180-degree" change of attitudes in Egypt after President as-Sadat's assassination. Do you feel that Egyptian attitudes have changed?

[Answer] This fear of what will happen after Sadat was a worldwide fear. The assassination of President as-Sadat was a tragedy, but when the people elected President Husni Mubarak, they made it clear to the world that they were electing him on the basis of two major principles: First, the continuation of the peace process, and second, total condemnation of terrorism and political assassination. These are the two factors that explain the unprecedented turnout at the ballot boxes the day Husni Mubarak was elected.

This cleary proves that Egypt's policy has not and will not change after President as-Sadat. And perhaps President Mubarak's recent visits to the U.S. and some European countries made it abundantly clear that Egypt's objectives and policy remain firm and nothing has change at all.

[Question] So, you don't think Mr Haig's concern, with special reference to Egyptian-Israeli relations after April, is justified?

[Answer] Not at all.

[Question] How do you evaluate the future of Egyptian-Soviet relations?

[Answer] We have repeatedly stated that Egypt is very keen on maintaining relations with all countries provided there is not interference in our internal affairs. This applies to the Soviet Union.

AL-AHRAM NOTES MUBARAK, ABU GHAZALAH MEETING

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[Text] Cairo, 6 Apr (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak and Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah met today and exchanged views on current events in the area as well as on international affairs.

In Wednesday's issue, the newspaper AL-AHRAM says that Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah gave President Mubarak a written message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan in reply to the message which President Mubarak had sent to President Reagan with Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah, who visited Washington recently.

The defense minister also presented in detail to the president the results of the discussions and contacts he held during his visit to Washington during which he met more than once with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah also briefed the president on the results of discussions he held in London yesterday during the few hours he stopped over in the British capital, which centered on bilateral relations.

MUHYI AD-DIN CALLS FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION

NC061611 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din declared at the political conference held in Tanta today that the present stage demands enormous efforts by all Egyptians to increase industrial and agricultural production, carry out the development projects and to find new work opportunities for the Egyptian workers. He said that the state is shouldering big burdens, particularly in the area of investments in the industrial and agricultural sectors. The prime minister pointed to the need to bolster the public sector by managing it on an economic basis so it could shoulder its responsibilities toward development.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din spoke about the importance of providing electricity for the operation of existing factories and those which will be established. He said that the current year and next year witness a major increase in the production of electricity after the cornerstones have been laid for the Shubra al-Khaymah and Aswan Dam power stations.

His excellency referred to the importance of improving and modernizing existing factories so they can operate at full capacity. He said that the new budget gives priority to this matter as well as to meeting the needs of the armed forces productive investments.

The conference was attended by the ministers of education, reconstruction, industry, health and religious trusts and the popular and executive leaders in the Al-Gharbiyah Governorate.

More on Conference Speech

NC061711 Cairo MENA in English 1650 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Tanta, Lower Egypt, 6 Apr (MENA) -- Premier Muhyi ad-Din said that the government was continuing its reinforcement of the armed forces because it was the country's shield against any outside aggression.

Speaking at the political rally at the Al-Gharbiyah Governorate this afternoon attended by the ministers of education, industry, reconstruction, religious trusts and health, the premier said that the state budget for this year would continue to focus on subsidizing commodities needed by low-and medium-income people, and would enhance the armed forces as well as production-oriented investment projects.

The premier pointed out that subsidy would be allocated only for the needy and that the affluent should not benefit from it.

On investment projects, he pointed out, that a sum of four billion Egyptian pounds would be allocated so as to create new job opportunities in the public sector. He added that the public sector would be developed to enable it meet its responsibilities. Its management will be carried out according to sound economic basis so that it will not incure losses, he added.

Referring to the private sector Premier Muhyi ad-Din urged it to increase its productivity with the object of developing the national economy. He also called on the ruling National Democratic Party as well as other parties in opposition to exert more efforts in this direction.

The premier noted that the present stage was one of purgation and that corruption would not be tolerated, and would be duely punished. However, he noted, it was not justified to generalise when speaking of corruption as only a small portion of the people could be accused of it.

Muhyi ad-Din called upon the media to shed light on the people's achievements and positive actions instead of highlighting the negative aspects alone.

PROSECUTION REFERS COMMUNISTS TO HIGHER COURT

NC051710 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Cairo, 5 Apr (MENA) -- The higher state security prosecution today issued a decision to refer 47 of those accused in the Egyptian Communist Party organization case to the higher state security court.

The decision points out that this organization aimed at overthrowing the state's fundamental social and economic systems through the use of force, intimidation, and other illegal means. The decision also points out that some members of the organization had established a branch for the organization abroad with a view to achieving the organization's aims. The persons who are to be referred to the higher state security court in accordance with the state security prosecution's decision are:

Lawyer Ahmad Nabil al-Hilali, pensioner Muhammad 'Alal 'Amir az-Zahhar, director of the Ath-Thaqafah al-Jadidah House for Publication Muhammad Yusuf al-Jundi, employee in the Ath-Thaqafah al-Jadidah House for Publication Mubarak 'Abduh Hajji, 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad al-Muwafi, AL-AKHBAR editor Faridah 'Abd al-Mu'min an-Naqqash, AL-AKHBAR editor Husayn 'Abd ar-Raziq, lawyer Ibrahim al-Badrawi Yunis, chairman of hte Ash-Sha's Printing Presses Workers Union 'Abd as-Salam, construction engineer in the Electricity Authority Fawzi Habashi Khalil, 'Aryan Nasif Nashid Mahamil, pharmacy owner Jamil Isma'il Haqqi, farmer 'Ali Muhammad Basyuni, housewife Fathiyah Sayyid Ahmad, Ath-Thaqafah al-Jadidah employee Ahmad 'Ali Mustafa, accountatn Ahmad 'Adli 'Abd al-Hafiz, merchant Salah 'Adli 'Abd al-Haviz, At-Ta'awun Institute student Ashraf Bukhati, electrical engineer Ahmad Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman, teacher Hasan Muhammad Badawi, student at the faculty of commerce Ibrahim Muhammad Hamid, student at the faculty of literature Muhammad 'Isam Fawzi, pensioner Muhammad 'Abd al-Maqsud Salam, faculty of commerce student Ahmad Muhammad Badawi, journalist currently abroad Michel Kamil Mikha'il, journalist currently abroad Mustafa Bahij Nassar, employee 'Abd al-Majid Ahmad 'Abd al-Majid Muhammad as-Sawi, construction foreman Muhammad Muhammad Ibrahim, teacher 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Halim 'Abd al-Jalil, medical college student 'Ali Muhammad Shushan, employee Ahmad Fahim ar-Rifa'i, production specialist Hamid Ibrahim ad-Dab', full-time administrator Husayn 'Abd al-Fattah Husayn, social researcher Abu al-Khayr Hasan 'Ali al-Hariri, commerce baccalaureate student Hasan Ashraf Ahmad Fathi, employee Isma'il Muhammad Sulayman, teacher Mahmud Muhammad Murad, auditer Ibrahim Ahmad al-Yamani, student in the veterinary college Tahir Mahmud al-Burmali, electrician 'Ali 'Abbas 'Abd al-Maqsud, pharmaceutical college student Tharwat 'Ajban Tadrus, education college student Muhammad 'Ashur 'Awad 'Ali, agriculture college student Ahmad Mahmud Matrawi, teacher Fu'ad Hasan Ahmad, Sudanese student in the engineering colege Muhamamd Sulayman Muhammad and Sudanese national Mahjub 'Uthman 'Abd ar-Rahman.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

Communique No 669

JN061655 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- During the past 24 hours, the military operations continued between Iraqi forces and the forces of the Iranian enemy. A military communique issued here today said these operations took place in the Iranian area facing Panjwin and the areas of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Sumar, Abadan and Gilan-e Gharb. During these operations the enemy lost 13 killed and 2 stockpiles of hardware were destroyed. Iraqi forces lost 6 martyrs and one vehicle damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 669 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The triumphant Iraqi forces are continuing their operations at the front. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy force in front of our positions facing Panjwin and pounded it with its weapons, killing six soldiers and wounding a number of others.
2. Three were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
3. Two were killed in the Sumar area.
4. One was killed and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.
5. One was killed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.

Thus, total known enemy losses were 13 killed and 2 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

6. Our sacrifices:

   A. In personnel: Six martyrs in all sectors.
   B. In equipment: One vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 April 1982

BA'TH PARTY FOUNDER SPEAKS ON PARTY DAY

JN062056 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- Michel 'Aflaq, founder of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has urged Arab leadership and the mature Arab masses to have their say and take a responsible position on the Iraqi-Iranian war. In a speech televised and broadcast tonight over Baghdad television and radio on the 35th anniversary of foundation of the Ba'th Party, 'Aflaq said that a responsible pan-Arab stand must be taken vis-a-vis the mentality that rules Iran, particularly after more than a year and a half of war and 3 years of the current Iranian regime. Iraq's pan-Arab war against Iranian aggression necessitates effective Arab solidarity in order to put an end to the aggression against the eastern borders of the Arab homeland.

The founder leader said that the outstanding leadership of President Saddam Husayn has been the unifying factor which helped move the people toward sustained victory. He said Iraq's battle is an integrated manifestation of the beginning of a new phase in the struggle of the Arab nation and a new stage of maturity and fruition.

The founder leader strongly assailed the Syrian regime and said Hafiz al-Asad's weapons, which are being used against the Syrian people, will not defeat the people's struggle which has always been the triumphant weapon in all struggles against tyranny. This people's weapon is the one which is realizing victory for the Iraqi heroes and the heroes of our Arab people in the occupied territories against the Zionist enemy. It is also the weapon of the Iranian peoples against the Iranian regime.

'Aflaq pointed out that the deliverance of Syria, its resumption of its pan-Arab role and the healing of its wounds caused by the Syrian regime are also pan-Arab responsibilities. He asserted that Arab Syria's resumption of its historical role is inevitable so that the new Arab upsurge will emerge and a profound and comprehensive reform will be effected that might change the current Arab situation.

PRESIDENT HAILS TREATY WITH SOVIET UNION

JN071012 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Apr (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has reiterated Iraq's adherence to the treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. He added, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the signing of the aforementioned treaty, that this treaty has laid down the bases of mutual cooperation based on mutual respect and common interests.

This came in a cable President Saddam Husayn has sent to Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on the occasion. He asserted that the treaty will remain a course for Iraq to support the struggle and independence of nations against imperialism and to confront intervention of all kinds in the area. The treaty will also remain a basis for cooperation based on common interests and for the prosperity of the Iraqi and Soviet peoples for the sake of a just peace that would preserve the independence of the peoples of the region.

President Saddam Husayn wished Brezhnev and Tikhnov continued health and happiness and the friendly Soviet Union progress.

UAE MINISTER OF STATE ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN061903 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1828 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs [as received], arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to Iraq. He was received by Hamid 'Alwan, Iraqi minister of state for foreign affairs, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

KING RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR

JN061911 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman this evening following a 2-day tour of Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Returning with his majesty were members of the Jordanian delegation; Prime Minister Mudar Badran; chief of the royal court Ahmad al-Lawzi; Court Minister 'Amir Khammash; and Staff Lt Gen Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the armed forces.

Immediately upon his arrival in Doha at noon today, his majesty the king met with Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani. His highness the amir welcomed his majesty the king and praised his majesty's concern with maintaining consultatons and an exchange of opinions with his brothers, the Arab leaders, regarding issues of common interest and the supreme Arab interest.

The two leaders reviewed the recent developments in the Arab region and the situation in the occupied Arab territories and on the battlefront on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

The two sides asserted that it is important to exert continued efforts to build up a joint Arab stand to face the aggressive designs aimed against the region. They also discussed bilateral relations and means of further promoting all fields of joint cooperation.

His Majesty King Husayn yesterday held a meeting in Riyadh with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The two sides made comprehensive analyses of the main issues facing the Arab region, particularly recent developments in the West Bank and the rest of the occupied Arab territories. They also discussed Israel's arbitrary practices, aggressive designs and collective punishments against Arab citizens.

The two leaders reiterated their support for the Palestinian Arab people's steadfastness in their homeland and their persistence to determine their fate. They also reviewed the political and military situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front. They underlined the need to work for a unified Arab stand to face all threats and challenges and to bolster the Arab march on all levels. They also discussed bilateral issues and means of further promoting and strengthening joint cooperation to serve their common interests and national objectives.

This morning, His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Qubbah Palace in Riyadh His Highness Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting was attended by the Jordanian delegation accompanying his majesty and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The two sides resumed their discussion and revision of Arab and bilateral issues of common interest.

AR-RA'Y LAUDS HUSAYN'S SAUDI ARABIA VISIT

JN060846 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Husayn's Visit to Saudi Arabia," AR-RA'Y says: His Majesty King Husayn's visit to fraternal Saudi Arabia represents a new move in the Arab arena to discuss new developments, their dimensions and effects on this arena. The visit is also aimed at discussing bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries.

It is not a secret that many developments have taken place recently. These developments emerged as a result of Israel's aggressive measures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and of the Iraqi-Iranian war on the Arab nation's eastern flank. Therefore, it is necessary that these developments be faced with deliberations compatible to their importance. Thus, King Husayn's visit to Saudi Arabia is a move toward these indispensible deliberations.

Needless to say, Jordan's move is a new phase in a chain of continuous phases, and emanates from a main base represented by the unity of pan-Arab commitment and action. This principle has been and still is the mainstay of Jordan's positive practices on the Arab arena under all circumstances. Hence, the importance of the Jordanian pan-Arab commitment which always seeks to build a united pan-Arab stand coupled with united action to enable the Arabs to confront the dangers facing them and gives a chance to move on a united pan-Arab path.

AR-RA'Y concludes: King Husayn's talks with the king of fraternal Saudi Arabia and senior Saudi officials are an action of pan-Arab responsibility in which Jordan believes and also a move for the pan-Arab stand to face the challenges endangering it in all arenas. There is no doubt that his majesty's move will push the pan-Arab stand toward new horizens and to assume a more influential role than at any previous time.

SANA INTERVIEWS PRIME MINISTER AL-WAZZAN

JN062135 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Beirut, 6 Apr (SANA) -- Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has praised the distinctive relations that exist between Syria and Lebanon and the role of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Lebanon to protect it and prevent its partitioning into sectarian statelets.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent in Beirut, Al-Wazzan said that Syria now is shouldering alone the burden of the ADF, which is working to halt the fighting among the Lebanese and to ward off harm from the Palestinian resistance.

The Lebanese prime minister stressed that Syria's assistance to Lebanon in 1976 stemmed from a commitment to pan-Arabism and from a clear responsibility to confront the partition conspiracy, which at that time had many supporters. It also stems from the objective of halting the fighting among the Lebanese which regrettably took the form of ugly sectarian strife. This Syrian assistance also came to ward off harm from the Palestinian resistance, which we have viewed and continue to view as a symbol of not only the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their right to repatriation and the liberation of their land but also as the symbol of liberation of all Arabs at a time when Zionist and colonialist forces are colluding to impose their hegemony on the Arab region in one way or the other.

Al-Wazzan criticized those who cast doubts on the ADF in Lebanon. He said: Our assessment of the role of these forces through the various stages of their formation is that this role cannot be harmed by the stands of some parties because this role is the continuation of a pan-Arab and fateful mission.

Al-Wazzan added: As a Lebanese official, I sincerely say that we still need the ADF because we have not yet taken the appropriate measures to enable us to dispense with these forces.

Al-Wazzan also criticized the U.S. role in the region. He said: These successive stands which obstruct every international decision made in favor of the Palestinians and the Arabs or of denouncing and condemning Israeli aggression, and U.S. support for Israel in the military and economic spheres, can no longer be tolerated by the Arabs.

Al-Wazzan pointed out that Lebanon, and the other Arab countries, continue to criticize on every occasion the U.S. policy in the region, which is based on unconditional support for the Zionist entity and the protection of its interests in the region.

Al-Wazzan added that the United States is now trying to adopt a policy which seems to be limited at present to handing over Sinai to Egypt in order to save U.S. credibility with regard to the ill-omened Camp David process, which failed to achieve the objectives of peace and a just solution. Al-Wazzan went on to say: Even if the United States has contributed to securing a cease-fire in southern Lebanon, this cease-fire is fragile and the United States continues to threaten us daily and to humiliate us.

Al-Wazzan added: In any case, the process of national accord which we are seeking and working is being hampered by more than one party, particularly by Israel, those who collaborate with it and those who are in its orbit or are assisting it.

Al-Wazzan said: We always expect evil to come from Israel and to have it continuously conspire against Lebanon, the Palestinians and all Arabs.

Concluding his statement, the Lebanese prime minister called for coordination among Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinian resistance. He said: As officials, we must always prepare for any eventuality. The strongest weapon against any eventuality is unity of ranks and stands. This is what we have always sought to achieve, not only among us and our Palestinian and Syrian brothers, because we are in the same trench and have the same fate. Such a unified stand is inevitable.

AL-ANBA' INTERVIEWS NATIONAL BLOC PARTY LEADER

GF071007 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 5 Apr 82 pp 1, 14

[Interview granted by Raymond Edde, leader of the Lebanese National Bloc Party, to AL-ANBA' correspondent Musa Hamati in Paris -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] In your opinion, what is the way to resolve the Lebanese problem?

[Answer] So long as the Israeli Army is in the south of Lebanon in contradiction of the Lebanese-Israeli truce treaty (1949) and in contradiction of the Security Council's Resolutions 425 (1978) and 501 (1982), fragmentation will continue to prevail among the ranks of the Lebanese people -- especially when each Arab country is financing a Lebanese faction and each faction is operating a "workshop" on fighting the others. So long as the Arab countries agree to keep Lebanon the only battlefield, I do not foresee an end to the great catastrophe in the near future.

Israel should withdraw [from the south] automatically or under U.S. pressure, thus implementing the Security Council resolutions and honoring the truce treaty. The administration in Lebanon, if it is national, should be given a chance to restore security within the framework of a democratic parliamentary system. In my opinion, a main condition remains: Arab... or European, or joint Arab-European multinational forces should replace the [Arab] Deterrent Forces for a period of time in order to protect the rear of the Lebanese Army to enable it to perform its duties, the most important of which will be collecting the heavy weapons from the Lebanese and non-Lebanese, because it is unreasonable to think that any state can survive in the presence of armed factions which are as large as the state's army and sometimes larger.

[Question] People mention your name these days, as the Lebanese presidential elections draw near. What is your stand on these elections as you have set forth your policy clearly a few years ago?

[Answer] I have already said that I have not taken a stand regarding running for president. I am still waiting for April 25 to announce my stand. I have also said that I have several conditions for running for president. The most important of these conditions are the withdrawal of Israel from the south of Lebanon, the withdrawal of the deterrent forces from the Lebanese territories, and the replacement of these forces with Arab, European, or joint multinational forces.

[Question] How do you view the events of the West Bank and Gaza Strip?

[Answer] Naturally, the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip should demonstrate against the Israeli occupation, especially if they feel that Israel is ready to annex the West Bank and Gaza as it did the Golan Heights and Jerusalem. Regretfully, I think if the new conspiracy against the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza is successful the civilized countries which make up the United Nations will not take action in favor of the Palestinians.

[Question] Saudi Arabia has presented a plan that is a substitute for the Camp David accords and was met with great international approval, especially in Europe. How do you view the Prince Fahd Plan?

[Answer] The most important items in the Prince Fahd plan are three: first, the item regarding the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital; second, the assertion of the region's countries' right to live in peace; and third, the affirmation of the Palestinian people's right to return, or to recompensation for those who don't want to return as stated in the said item.

In my opinion, the first difficulty [facing the implementation of the plan] is that Israel will not agree to give up Jerusalem and the United States up to now has not wanted to coerce Israel into that, in spite of a UN resolution stating that the Jerusalem district should have a permanent international system.

The second difficulty may be in the refusal of certain Arab countries to accept the item that will recompensate every Palestinian who does not want to return to Palestine, as this means Palestinians residing in the Arab countries will have the right to demand citizenship in the Arab country in which they reside.

As for the third problem, which is the implicit recognition of Israel, I see that the recognition was agreed to by certain countries when they agreed on Resolutions 242 of 1967 and 338 of 1973.

[Question] How do you view the development of the European stands, and France's stand in particular, on Middle East events?

[Answer] During the current era the European stand on the Middle East, especially with respect to France, has developed remarkably. President Mitterrand, like his External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson, has reiterated the right of the Palestinian people to establish an independent state. The administration [in France] has never called for that before.

'MAXIMUM' ALERT DECLARED FOR PALESTINIAN FORCES

NC060838 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The latest Israeli threats to destroy the PLO have brought weight on the situation in southern Lebanon. A maximum state of alert has been declared within the Palestinian ranks in Beirut and in southern Lebanon as a precaution against any Israeli surprise action.

Meanwhile, Israeli planes continued their reconnaissance flight over the south and Israeli gunboats were sighted reconnoitering the southern coastline in the last few hours.

SYRIAN NATIONALISTS, LEBANESE SECURITY CLASH

NC062044 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The exchange of gunfire continues to be heard in the As-Sayyar area in Verdun in the western area of the capital between Syrian nationalists and Internal Security Forces. The clashes, which began this evening when Syrian nationalists [party members] opened fire at an Internal Security Forces' patrol near the Bristol Hotel; gunfire intensified later and RPG's were used. According to preliminary reports, the armed men [the Syrian Nationalists] have sustained casualties and all roads leading to the area of the clashes are cut off.

BA'TH PARTY, FATAH DELEGATIONS RESUME MEETINGS

JN062010 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] A Ba'th Party delegation headed by Comrade 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a Palestine Liberation Movement-Fatah delegation headed by Brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, resumed their meetings tonight at the Foreign Ministry to complete the discussion of a joint working strategy.

The party's delegation comprised Comrade Muhammad Haydar, National Command member and Foreign Relations Office director; Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Regional Command member and Coordination Office director; and Comrade Raruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs. Attending the meeting for the Palestine Liberation Movement-Fatah were Brother Nimr Salih, alias Abu Salih, and Brother Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, alias Abu al-Hawl, Fatah Central Committee members.

SECURITY ORGANS SEIZE IRAQI ARMS, AMMUNITION

JN031503 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1455 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Damascus, 3 Apr (SANA) -- The security authorities in Syria have seized arms and ammunition brought in the country by the Iraqi regime via Dayr az-Zawr on the Syrian-Iraqi border. The arms and ammunition were brought by hired agents who sold out their honor and conscience and accepted work from the agent regime in Baghdad.

More details will be broadcast this evening over Syrian radio and television.

TISHRIN SCORES U.S. VETO, MIDDLE EAST POLICY

JN050941 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Damascus, 5 Apr (SANA) -- In today's commentary, the newspaper TISHRIN affirms that it is now obvious that there is no U.S. policy in the Middle East and that the U.S. administration is implementing an Israeli policy in the region, serving the Zionist entity interests and entrenching the Israeli occupation of the territories.

The paper explains that, based on this principle the U.S. administration has moved from the stage of supporting and defending the Israeli aggression to that of participating in the planning and implementation of this aggression. The U.S. administration paved the way for this transition when it signed the memorandum of understanding on the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement. It says that the immediate result of this agreement was the annexation of the Golan. This step, the paper adds, is only a prelude for annexing the Golan and preparing for invading southern Lebanon.

Continuing, TISHRIN says that the U.S. veto and the statements made by Reagan and Haig are all in support of the Israeli steps in the occupied territories and its suppressive practices in these territories. The paper points out that Washington's veto is aimed at placing the world before two options: Either to submit to the U.S. administration or to accept the fait accompli resulting from its practices of those of its allies and tools.

In conclusion, TISHRIN says that our kinfolk's will of struggle is adequate to abort all designs and to score victory in the battle of liberating the land and restoring rights.

'SOURCES' ON POSTPONEMENT OF WEINBERGER VISIT

TA060941 Jerusalem POST in English 6 Apr 82 p 1

[Benny Morris report]

[Text] Sources in Jerusalem last night said Israel does not attach great importance to the reported postponement of U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger's visit to Jerusalem which was to have taken place next month.

American Embassy officials in Tel Aviv said flatly that no visit by Weinberger was scheduled at all; but the secretary "has expressed his intention to come on a visit at some point."

No actual date had been set for his visit, said the sources, and in any event the visit had no concrete purpose other than as "a personal act of goodwill and rebuilding of bridges."

The Israeli sources were referring to last year's intermittent criticisms by Weinberger of Israel and the personal attacks on the defence secretary by Prime Minister Menahem Begin, which had embittered relations between Weinberger and Israel.

"There is nothing to discuss with Weinberger that cannot be settled or discussed via normal diplomatic sources through embassies in Washington and Jerusalem," said the sources.

The sources indicated that the Weinberger visit would probably take place "sometime during the summer."

A senior source in Jerusalem indicated yesterday that the "secret" subject of the talk between President Ronald Reagan and Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren was the lifting of the suspension of the memorandum of understanding on strategic matters between Israel and the United States.

But senior government sources last night said that in any case the suspension was not in effect and that should Begin have wished to approach Reagan on the matter, he had a variety of more immediate means to do so than dispatching the chief rabbi.

Sources in Jerusalem noted that as it was the Americans who had suspended the agreement, it was up to them to renew it. "We won't be the ones to broach the matter with the Americans," said the sources.

American Embassy officials declined all comment on the matter.

FURTHER MATERIALS ON ASSASSINATION AFTERMATH

U.S. Diplomatic Activity

TA061347 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Apr 82 pp 1, 15

[Report by 'Oded Granot, Ilan Kfir, Tamar Golan and Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpt] The United States fears a collapse of the cease-fire in the north and yesterday began intensive diplomatic activity to guarantee continued calm. U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis yesterday met in Jerusalem with Foreign Ministry Deputy Director General Hanan Bar-On and expressed to him U.S. concern about aggravation in the tension in the region.

The United States is afraid that an Israeli action will entail a reaction by the terrorists on the northern border and this will in turn lead to a wider conflagration.

As part of efforts to calm the situation Washington has condemned the murder of the Israeli diplomat in Paris but claimed it is not clearly proved this was a violation of the cease-fire since the terrorist act did not take place in the region and there is no certainty, for the time being, that its perpetrators came from Beirut. Experts assess it is possible that Ya'aqov Bar-Simantov's murder was initiated by a neofascist movement in Europe.

French investigators point to an apparent connection between the assassination of the Israeli diplomat and two previous assassinations of U.S. diplomats in France.

The three major points of similarity are: 1) the bullet was directed at the victim's head, 2) the assassination was perpetrated when the victim was near his house and before he managed to understand what was going on, 3) the pistol and ammunition used were of the same make: Czechoslovak.

Western Advice

TA070825 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Daniyel Bloch and by Knesset correspondent]

[Excerpt] Governmental circles have confirmed that friendly Western elements have advised Israel not to act against the PLO because of the murder of Ya'aqov Bar-Simantov in Paris. Some elements have assessed there is no clear proof to a connection between the PLO and the assassination and that any Israeli reaction may lead to escalation which can damage the peace process.

It seems that remarks in this spirit were also made on behalf of the United States and raised in meetings held between U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis on the one hand and Prime Minister Begin yesterday and Foreign Ministry Deputy Director General Hanan Bar-On the day before yesterday.

As far as known, no governmental forum has made a decision on this matter. It seems that the issue will be raised in the Cabinet meeting on Sunday.

The meeting between the prime minister and the U.S. ambassador was set at Ambassador Lewis' request over a week ago. The major issues raised in it concerned the completion of the Sinai withdrawal and the resumption of the autonomy talks in Washington. The dispute over the border demarcation in the Tabah area was also raised during the meeting. The United States wants to help in finding a compromise formula that will prevent any disruption in the timely completion of the Israeli withdrawal.

Our Knesset correspondent reports:

The prime minister told Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members yesterday that the murders of the Israeli diplomat in Paris and of the border policeman in Janin cannot go unnoticed and are serious. In the meeting with the Agudat Yisra'el leaders the prime minister said that the terrorists will not be able to continue their acts and they should not think we will allow them to do so.

Paris Official on Pistol

TA061124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The pistol with which the Israeli diplomat was murdered in Paris is the same pistol with which U.S. diplomat James Charles Ray was murdered more than 2 months ago. A senior Paris official source -- who asked that his identity be kept secret -- confirmed this to our correspondent Gil'ad Sher a few minutes ago. So far there has not been clear proof that it is the same pistol that is in question.

Peres: Cease-Fire Violated

TA061648 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Becker] The heads of the Labor Party met today with ranking representatives of the government for 2 hours. At the end of the meeting, extraordinary with respect to its participants, it was agreed between the two sides that Shim'on Peres should release to the waiting journalists only the following statement.

[Peres] In the course of this meeting, which lasted about 2 hours, and in which, as I have already mentioned, the prime minister, the foreign minister, the defense minister and the chairman of the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee took part as representatives of the coalition, and Mr Rabin, Mr Bar-Lev and myself as representatives of the Labor Party, we reviewed political and defense matters, and I will not say anything beyond that.

[Becker] Among the main subjects discussed at this meeting was the recent increase in terrorist actions and their significance with respect to Israel. Government sources again stressed today that Israel views with gravity not only the murder in Paris, but equally so the chain of actions which have resulted so far in the deaths of two persons and the wounding of others. Today, after the long talk with representatives of the government, Shim'on Peres was asked if he considered the murder in Paris a violation of the cease-fire in Lebanon.

[Peres] In my opinion this murder is a breach of the cease-fire agreement. However, I would not draw automatic conclusions from this.

[Becker] It should be mentioned that in contrast to the government's declared position in this matter, the United States maintains that terrorist actions in Europe, their viciousness notwithstanding, are not to be regarded as violations of the agreement worked out by Philip Habib.

Again, regarding the discussion today in the Prime Minister's Office, Shim'on Peres says that the possibility of setting up a national unity government was not even mentioned. The Alignment's position against such a government today has not changed. [end recording]

Following the meeting this afternoon with the prime minister, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres is holding discussions with his close colleagues. Reacting to the statement by MAPAM leaders that the decisions made during the meeting are not binding upon them, sources close to Peres have announced that clarifications will be made soon to the heads of MAPAM.

Labor Party circles have informed our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar that a national unity government has no chance of being set up. If a national unity government is set up, there will be one minister for every six Knesset members the prime minister said this morning to Likud executive members. Presently, there is a minister for every three [coalition] Knesset members. Our correspondent Gil'ad Mishori notes that the new system would reduce the Likud's representation in the Cabinet by about half. The NRP would receive one minister, and TAMI would be left without any. The prime minister also said in the meeting with Likud executive members that he was happy that MK Shim'on Peres had not dismissed out of hand the proposal to set up a national unity government.

Spokesman Blames PLO

TA061020 Jerusalem POST in English 6 Apr 82 pp 1, 2

[Benny Morris report]

[Excerpt] Senior government spokesmen last night reiterated that Israel holds the PLO responsible for the murder of diplomat Ya'aqov Bar-Simantov in Paris on Saturday.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, delivering an eulogy at Bar-Simantov's graveside in Holon yesterday, vowed that Israel will continue its effort to destroy the terrorist organizations and their leaders.

In insisting that the PLO had had a hand in the murder, the senior government spokesmen, both of the Foreign Ministry and of the Prime Minister's Office, denied the veracity of a Kol Yisra'el report yesterday claiming that "Israeli Government circles had reached the conclusion that Bar-Simantov was murdered by neo-nazi -- rather than Arab or left-wing terrorists.

Without identifying a source, the radio report said that the "government circles" had based their conclusion on "the function that Bar-Simantov filled on the Paris Embassy staff." Where he served as a second secretary, the implication of the radio report was that Bar-Simantov's job had been to keep tabs on neo-nazis, and that they had discovered this and killed him.

"Our cumulative intelligence indicates that the PLO was responsible, though the French authorities, of course, are investigating in all directions -- neo nazis, the Carlos organization and so on," said the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

At the UN yesterday, Israel charged in a letter to the Security Council that the PLO was responsible for Bar-Simantov's murder, and that "the Government of Israel will hold the instigators, the perpetrators and the abettors of this crime responsible and answerable for their deeds."

French Statement Disregarded

TA070843 Jerusalem POST in English 7 Apr 82 p 1

[Report by diplomatic reporter]

[Text] Israel continues to hold the Palestine Liberation Organization responsible for last Saturday's murder of diplomat Ya'aqov Bar-Simantov in Paris, sources in Jerusalem said last night.

"All the strings lead to the PLO," one official said.

This reaffirmation of who Israel holds responsible for the slaying followed a statement in Paris by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson that there was no proof the PLO had been involved. Cheysson also ruled out Israel's proposal that the PLO's Paris office be closed.

Speaking on French radio, Cheysson said: "We do not believe there will be peace in the Middle East without negotiation. It is advantageous to let the PLO have an office here so it can speak for the Palestinian people."

The socialist minister, accused by opposition parties of laxity in dealing with terrorists, also said France rejected violence but could not protect every public place.

The Jerusalem official declared that "the killing has not harmed Israeli-French relations." The official denied that Cheysson's statement had "political significance." He continued: "We do not believe it is a signal to us not to retaliate against the PLO. It was a statement of French belief regarding a murder investigation and possible suspects."

A government source yesterday also denied press reports that Monday's meeting between U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis and Hanan Bar-On, assistant to the director-general at the Foreign Ministry, was connected in any way with the murder of Bar-Simantov and possible Israeli responses to it. "Routine matters were dealt with, that is all," said the sources.

Press reports yesterday asserted that Lewis conveyed a "forceful" American request that Israel not respond to the murder with a military action against the PLO in Lebanon.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON UNITY GOVERNMENT ISSUE

Begin Pleased With Peres

TA061135 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Before his meeting with Labor Party leaders the prime minister met with Likud leaders in his office and expressed happiness that this time Shim'on Peres had not rejected outright his proposal on the establishment of a national unity government.

Likud, Opposition Meeting

TA061308 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] About 30 minutes ago the meeting between Prime Minister Begin and Ministers Sharon and Shamir, on the one hand, and Alignment leaders Peres, Rabin and Bar-Lev ended in the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Golan. At the end of a 2-hour talk Labor Party Chairman Peres said that security and political issues had been raised but he refused to elaborate. In an answer to a question he said the issue of the establishment of a national unity government was not raised at all.

MAPAM Protests

TA061424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] MAPAM has sharply protested that the leaders of the Labor Party met with the prime minister and the defense minister without first consulting MAPAM, their alignment partner. The chairman of MAPAM's Knesset faction said that the discussions held during that meeting will not be binding upon MAPAM.

Peres Interview

TA061856 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres interviewed by Arye Golan on 6 April; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Golan] Have you, the Labor and Likud leaders who participated in the meeting this afternoon, decided to hold further meetings of this type and with the same participants?

[Peres] No date was fixed for another meeting. But I suppose that additional meetings will be held in the future.

[Golan] Knesset Member Peres, there have been many interpretations of your remarks yesterday to the Alignment Executive on the possibility of setting up a national unity government and on the possibility's not being dismissed out of hand. What, in your view, is the correct interpretation?

[Peres] The correct interpretation, as was written in the letter I sent to the prime minister in February, reflected the position of the Alignment and of the Labor Party. However, at the same time, I do not think that a party has to make a decision that will apply forever and in all situations against setting up a national unity government. Even politically speaking, there could be a situation in which we would form the government and in which we would want to set up a national unity government. I believe political bodies have to make concrete decisions, and not philosophical ones. In concrete terms, we reached a decision and made it known. Philosophically speaking, anything is possible.

[Golan] Concerning the letter you sent to the prime minister in February, one of the conditions you stipulated for setting up a national unity government was the existence of a state of emergency in the country. Is this not the situation now?

[Peres] I have not heard that the government has declared a state of emergency in the country.

[Golan] Perhaps, in the wake of your discussion today with the prime minister?

[Peres] You want to get me to say more than I have already said. You have no chance of doing so. What I had to say about the discussion, I have said. I do not think, and I have already said, that there has been a change in the circumstances which brought us to take the position we took regarding a national unity government

Poll Favors Unity Government

TA070849 Jerusalem POST in English 7 Apr 82 p 3

[Report by political correspondent Mark Segal: "Poll -- 50 Percent Support for National Unity Government"]

[Text] Tel Aviv -- Over half the population wants a wall-to-wall unity coalition, one-fifth prefers the present Likud government, while one tenth wants an Alignment government. This emerged from a poll conducted for the Jerusalem POST by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute among a representative sample of 1,233 adults conducted in mid-March.

When asked, "In view of the present situation, which coalition do you favour?" the answers produced the following: national unity coalition (Likud, Alignment) -- 28.1 percent; the present government (Likud, religious) -- 20.4 percent; Alignment coalition (Alignment, religious, Shinuy, Telem) -- 10.9 percent; others -- 10.3 percent; and undecided -- 4.8 percent.

Institute Director Sara Shemer noted that 64.5 percent sought a change from the present coalition. Of those who voted Alignment last year, 46.5 percent preferred a national unity coalition, to 28.2 percent who wanted only an Alignment government. The demographic profile of supporters of a wall-to-wall coalition indicate that the idea has the backing of all social groups.

A further question, "How do you think Premier Menahem Begin performs his duties in comparison to the pre-election period?" produced the following answers, better -- 18 percent, the same -- 51 percent, worse -- 28.1 percent, undecided -- 2.9 percent.

In examining the link between the respondents' evaluation of Begin's performance and support for a national unity coalition, Shemer found that a low evaluation is consistent with a low level of support of the present government. She noted that among those who think Begin was performing better, 32 percent supported the existing coalition, while among those who saw no change in Begin's premiership the ratio was 25.3 percent, with the percentage dropping to 6.1 percent of those who think Begin was doing worse today.

HA'ARETZ Cautions Labor

TA070639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] In the editorials, HA'ARETZ urges the Labor Party not to accept Prime Minister Begin's proposal for a national unity government. The paper says that the Labor Party certainly cannot save the country and would be foolish to want to share in the failures of the Likud government. The only way Labor can prevent further errors on the part of the government is to criticize it from the opposition, HA'ARETZ said.

DETAILS ON STRIKE BY GOLAN DRUZE VILLAGES

TA061245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The strike in the Golan Druze villages now encompasses about 80 percent of the population there. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar learned this from Israeli circles handling the Druze population. According to them many residents were compelled to remain at home due to pressure by Syrian supporters. Pro-Syrian Druze continue to collect Israeli identification cards in order to return them to the Interior Ministry.

The strike organizers in the Druze villages say it encompasses 90 percent of the entire Golan Druze population.

Israeli Druze Support

TA061936 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Scores of Israeli Druze notables have openly thrown their support behind their Golan brothers' struggle against the application of Israeli law in the Golan Heights. Some local council heads, public figures and Zionist party activists are among those now supporting the Golan Druze. On this new development, our correspondent Yo'el Dar:

[Begin recording] The change in the position of the public figures from the Israeli Druze community was not sudden but gradual. At first only one group, the Druze initiative committee, behind which the moving force is RAKAH, denounced the imposition of Israeli law on the Golan Heights. Meanwhile, the vast majority adopted a neutral stance, with a good many supporting the government's policy. Slowly political elements in the Galilee villages and on Mount Carmel who never belonged to the radical camp began to demand that the government take account of the special situation of the Golan Druze. Afterwards they were joined by town council heads, public figures and youths born after the state's establishment. The blockade imposed on the Druze villages in the Golan Heights helped swell the numbers of those opposed to the government's policy. Furthermore, the permit granted 2 weeks ago to a delegation of Israeli Druze notables to visit the villages in the Golan Heights did not bring about a change in their attitude. Druze in the villages of Peqi'in and Daliyat al-Karmel confess that it is not up to them to check if the Druze striking in the Golan Heights are right or wrong, since it is a matter of brethren being in distress and in need of their help. At such a moment differences are forgotten and all become one body, they say.

The religious leader Shaykh Amin Tarif, subjected to conflicting pressures, is not to be envied. Government representatives have hinted to him that they were interested in his support, and at the same time, many Druze -- not only RAKAH members -- are seeking his intervention on behalf of their brethren in the Golan Heights. It should be noted that only a few Israeli Druze stood by their Golan brethren when they were subjected to persecution and pressures on the party of Syrian sympathizers in this region. [end recording]

Zoning Plans for Golan

TA061751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] All the zoning plans of Israel's northern district which have already been approved will henceforth apply to the area of the Golan Heights, it was decided today by the National Council on Planning and Construction. In question are plans for roads and institutions and the zoning plan for national parks and natural reserves. The decision will also apply to zoning plans to be adopted in the future.

'ANABTA MAYOR CONVICTED OF SECURITY OFFENSES

TA070848 Jerusalem POST in English 7 Apr 82 p 2

[David Richardson report]

[Text] The mayor of the West Bank town of 'Anabta, Wahid Hamadallah, was found guilty yesterday by a military court in Tulkarm of twice violating military orders confining him to his town, and of the illegal possession of banned literature.

The court has delayed handing down sentence, but under Jordanian law, the military authorities can dismiss Hamadallah from his position as mayor.

Hamadallah was detained after he was found in Al-Birah three weeks ago, following the dismissal of that town's mayor and municipal council. He has been under town arrest for the past two years. Security forces discovered that he was carrying a copy of AL-HURRIYAH, the organ of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine headed by Nayif Hawatimah.

Some 18 months ago, Hamadallah was detained after he left his town without permission to visit a dying relative. But at the time, charges were not brought against him.

During yesterday's hearing Hamadallah argued that he had received the magazine unsolicited through the mail. To prove his point, he showed the court a sealed envelope posted in Vienna which he received recently but had not opened. When it was opened in court, it was found to contain a publication of the Syrian Muslim Brotherhood.

In another development, the editor of the east Jerusalem daily AL-QUDS, Mahmud Abu Zuluf, received a letter warning him to refrain from printing notices of resignation from the controversial village leagues.

The letter, written in poor Arabic, referred to the "village leagues in Israel" or in "Judaea and Samaria," and was illustrated with crude copies of the Israeli flag and the star of David.

Abu Zuluf said that the censor has recently prevented him from printing at least 10 announcements from people declaring their withdrawal from the leagues. The rash of withdrawals follows last month's Jordanian military order threatening members of the leagues with treason proceedings unless they withdraw.

The one-month ultimatum stipulated in the Jordanian order expires this Friday. To date, at least 50 persons are estimated to have published notices stating their withdrawal, and others have let the Jordanian authorities know in other ways.

NABULUS TOWN COUNCIL HOLDING REGULAR SESSIONS

TA061350 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0940 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Nabulus, 6 Apr -- Ignoring the dismissal order against Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah, the Nabulus municipal council is continuing to hold regular sessions. At sessions held in houses in the town, decisions are made on various municipal matters. At the last session, convened this week, the council reaffirmed its previous resolution not to recognize as legal the administration's order dismissing the mayor.

Meanwhile, east Jerusalem newspapers are claiming that Israeli authorities held consultations with figures in Ramallah and Al-Birah on the possibility of appointing some of them at this stage to form committees to run these two towns. The journalists, who attribute their claim to reliable sources, maintain that most of the figures involved in these consultations are those who suffered defeat in the 1976 municipal elections in the territories. Those who were consulted have yet to reply to the administration's proposals, they say.

NEW SETTLEMENT TO BE ESTABLISHED IN SAMARIA

TA061716 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1705 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Petah Tiqva, 6 Apr -- A new settlement to be called Qiryat Netafim will be established east of Elqana on the trans-Samaria road.

ITIM correspondent Moshe Halevi has learned that infrastructure work for the establishment of the settlement will begin immediately after the Passover holiday and construction is expected to be finished by the beginning of the next school year in September.

The head of the Qiryat Netafim nucleus, Zekharia Dori, today said that the nucleus had been forming for 3 years and is composed of new immigrants and young married couples.

Qiryat Netafim will be a settlement of a religious nature and it is scheduled to include a field school, a guesthouse and a yeshiva. The new settlement is located some 15 kms from Petah Tiqva.

COMMENTATOR ACCUSES CRITICS OF W. BANK POLICY

TA021352 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Apr 82 p 15

[Shmu'el Schnitzer commentary: "On the Defendant's Bench]

[Text] I do not know if the degree of force employed by the British Army and police in Northern Ireland is justified or excessive, but I do know that none of the measures being used can bring peace and security to this embattled country in which people -- men, women and children -- are being killed for belonging to the wrong religious denomination.

I do not know what reason the Catholics and Protestants have for killing each other for differences of religious practice, nor can I understand how it is that in all the West European countries as well as in the United States of America people affiliated with the various Christian churches can live in peace, whereas in Northern Ireland they cannot.

But this is not my business, and I do not think I am in a position to judge the British security forces. I can, in broad terms, understand that faced with violent opposition and armed chaos, use of force is not only morally justified, but is actually a duty the administration has to fulfill. I do not believe it is necessary for either myself or us in Israel as a whole to have an opinion on the question of who was right in the bloody conflict, or that we should analyze each and every outbreak of bloodshed in order to deduce a moral lesson on the conduct of the British security forces in maintaining order.

The same holds true for other places in the world, like the Basques' battle, for instance, or Corsica, or the interracial riots in England or the war of tongues in Belgium or the youth uprising in Zurich, or the pogrom against the Turks in Amsterdam. To a certain extent they also apply to the fight against the Red Brigades in Italy and the war against the Baader-Meinhof organization in West Germany. They even apply to the efforts exerted by the Turkish military dictators to quell the murderous leftist underground. In all those places the administration employs a certain degree of force to maintain law and order and disperse demonstrators who wish to force their opinion on governments and parliaments and to uproot the hazardous influence of the terrorist undergrounds.

We are judging none of these.

Because in none of these places is it our business, or is it in our power, to come and check whether the use of force was legitimate or not, or whether excess violent measures were employed in dispersing a certain demonstration above and beyond the morally permissive degree, or whether in the fight over life or death between the legal government and raging terrorism the rules are being followed or not. All governments, including the most enlightened and democratic, maintain the practice that in states of emergency these measures are used. And the age-old Jewish saying that one must not judge his brother until he is in his brother's place holds true here as well. We simply are unaware of all the facts or the extent of the danger involved; nor do we know how much those who are entrusted with maintaining the law have control of the situation. We cannot determine what would entail a greater loss of life: the drastic measures that would involve harming human rights, or tolerance, restraint and weakness that would encourage the terrorists and the demonstrators to double their destruction and murderous operations. The era, unfortunately, is a violent one, sometimes necessitating use of extraordinary measures, depending on the decision of the person in charge of maintaining order. Our reasons in this case will not contribute much.

We will naturally oppose and give vent to our disgust and dismay upon learning that suspects or murderers are being tortured in jail without being tried (in Turkey, by the government's own admission, such cases have occurred). But generally we will take a neutral stance and will not rush to pass judgement.

This is the call of reason, as well as the call of justice. A man cannot be familiar with all the conflicts in the world and cannot form a consolidated opinion on all the contentious problems. He can easily err in misjudging, in entertaining bias or in judging by appearance only.

When liberty is shackled in Poland, we obviously know where we stand, but when racial violence runs riot in the towns of Britain and the police hesitate to use full force to quell it for fear of being charged with brutality, we can afford to regard those distant disturbances with passive neutrality.

This is true among other things, because we have enough problems of our own.

Clearly this approach of neutrality and avoidance of judging someone else's problems of maintaining the law is totally a one-way street. We are not judging the nations of the world, but they judge us. If we are cautious and careful not to express too unequivocal a view on matters that are not sufficiently understood by us -- based on information that has not been satisfactorily checked -- this does not mean that we are treated in the same way. All those who have not an iota of an idea of what the Eretz Yisra'el conflict is all about hurry to judge us guilty based on the latest newspaper headline or television report. All those who justify a military coup in every Arab country still find a great fault in terms of pure democracy in the disbandment of an Arab municipal council in Judaea and Samaria. All those who have absolutely no opinion on the killing of 2,000 civilians in the Syrian town of Hamah in the course of the ongoing war between Al-Asad's military dictatorship and the Muslim Brotherhood, still have a clear and unambiguous opinion on the death of an Arab youth who participated in an assault on Israeli soldiers in the center of one Arab city or another.

The condemnations and accusations fall on our heads in volleys. The UN Security Council does not rest for a moment; the foreign ministries express their annoyance mildly, but unequivocally; the European community condemns and expresses deep concern -- particularly with the curtailment of the Golan Heights Druze population's human rights (oddly enough that same population stubbornly continues to long and yearn for the liberties promised to all those living under the tyranny of Al-Asad); the Arab world is shocked especially because of the moral aspect; the media conjures up the most biting terms to condemn the Israeli "oppressive measures."

We should by right have grown accustomed to this phenomenon which, after all, is nothing new. We have encountered the same kind of attitude for 15-odd years, confronting the same degree of double standards by which the cruellest PLO terror acts conducted in the past decade only stand to highlight Yasir 'Arafat's moderate image, but by which every bullet shot to quickly disperse stonethrowers in Judaea and Samaria is sufficient reason to place us in a stockade; all the bloody clashes between Iran and Iraq, running wild for 18 months now, do not cause any man in the West to lose his sleep, but a handful of casualties in but a few weeks of riots in Judaea and Samaria is a matter for deep concern for all the foreign ministries.

Still, it is difficult to get used to this and continue with a business-as-usual attitude, the reason most probably being that this international rebuke involves such a large degree of hypocrisy that nausea is unavoidable. The United States has behind it the prolonged war in Vietnam in which -- by its own admission -- it was embroiled in systematically annihilating complacent populations that may or may not have been concealed among the ranks of the Vietcong fighters. France's conscience is darkened by the ugly war in Algeria, the 20th anniversary of whose end is being marked these days, in which none of the rules of the morally justified use of arms were being observed. To this very day Britain continues to play the role of the conqueror in Northern Ireland, yet no one would dare doubt that it nonetheless observes each minute detail of the articles of the Human Rights Charter. What it did before that in its colonies similarly does not write a glorious chapter in its history. There is no need to elaborate on Germany as an occupying superpower.

What it did will remain carved in the annals of the human race as an unequalled moral abyss. In fact, there is no nation in the world that could presume to boast that in conquest, or while dispersing a violent demonstration, it did not spill innocent blood and did not crush human rights.

What then gives them the right to preach to us? And why are all eyes focused on us with deep anger and all the fingers point to us with rebuke while there are El Salvador, Turkey, Kampuchea, Poland, Afghanistan, Iran and a dozen other focii in the wartorn world of today, where policemen and soldiers open fire in defiance of the code of restraint and self-control?

The answer most probably lies in the fact that the nations of the world still cannot deal with the Jewish nation as they do any other nation. Thirty-four years have passed since the Jewish state was established, but still it is an outcast as well as a mystery, a revolutionary change one cannot get used to -- and also a touchstone by which to judge all national conduct and determine its moral integrity. That is because for 19 centuries we were faced with a world of prosecutors, because we had no other power than that inherent in morals and justice, because we flung our eternal accusations at the world but we did not rule over others or oppress others or use force against others. Right now they surround us, eyeing us with great curiosity, examining our actions under a microscope or passing them under a magnifying glass. What we do with the power we have and the way we deal with a minority that is hostile to us are at one and the same time a yardstick and justification in retrospect for all they did in the course of their histories. Every shot fired by Israeli soldiers pelted with stones, or by an Israeli driver whose car came across a roadblock made up of stones and burning tires justifies, in hindsight, all the inquisitions, the expulsions and banishments, all the hangings and other forms of killings, all the acts of looting, robbing and raping, all the horrors of the Algerian war, the genocide in India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Biafra, Uganda and all the killing during the St Bartholomey nights, all the bloodthirstiness of the massacre-loving dictators in all the countries in all times.

This explains the emphasis in the media, this explains the gloating as well as the strict judgment, implying that if we are found guilty of some wrong -- be it as slight as it may be -- all their shadowy pasts and deeds somehow become more diminutive, shrink, and can be more easily borne and tolerated.

We have been extending full aid to those countries in their effort. By feeling guilty and in our self-flaggelation -- which is something of a national sport for many Israelis -- in our public squabbling over the morality of the conquest and even on the defense of self-defense, we have all but helped them.

In this sense we are now closing the cycle opened 100 years ago, when the idea of a practical return to Zion forthwith coupled with the hope for active Jewish defense fell through. Ideologically the two were the two sides of the same coin: Simultaneously with the national decision that the Jews should once again be their own masters and control their own future there came also the resolve that they should learn to defend their lives and cease to be easy prey for all rioters.

Now we are questioning both these concepts at once. We are raising the question of whether or not the Jew has the right to return to Eretz Yisra'el and settle in all the places his forefathers inhabited in olden times.

All those who pose this question are also questioning the right of the Jew who, when travelling alone, encounters the rowdy masses encircling him and his vehicle to pull out his gun and use it to save his life. Somehow, a few journalists have managed to portray the Jew defending himself as the villain and the killer. Somehow the act of the renewing Jewish pride and self-esteem seems to have been forgotten.

And the evil angel will respond with a resounding amen, in all the capitals of the West and in all the righteous editorial staffs of the newspapers.

COMMENT ON LACK OF SOLUTION TO W. BANK SITUATION

TA021132 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Apr 82 p 13

[Avraham Schweitzer Commentary: "No Future for the West Bank"]

[Text] One may agree with the description of the head of the civil administration, Prof Menahem Milson, that Israel is in the midst of a battle -- according to him, the most important battle since 1948 -- with the PLO over control of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. However, contrary to his suggestion, this is not the last battle but merely one clash in a long series stretching into any foreseeable future, a battle which more than tipping the scales confirms an insolvable conflict between the parties. The reason for this situation can be easily seen: A practical goal, a political compromise on which the parties could agree, is missing. In any case the people setting the tone on both sides -- Mr Begin and his partners on the one hand and Yasir 'Arafat and his gang on the other hand -- cannot formulate and propose such a goal.

In principle, a civil uprising along the lines of Gandhi's in India or the Algerian model might have forced Israel to look for a political solution to the question of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el which would also include the territorial aspect. However, the events in the territories of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza do not merit such a description. At most, one may talk about occasional eruptions of anger whenever the provocations of the Military Government or the settlers cross the threshold of patience of the local Arabs. Such eruptions make part of the Jewish population feel uncomfortable but nothing more than that. They do not make any impression on the authorities -- namely, they do not force them to think in terms of a solution.

What remains are rigid basic positions: Mr Begin and his illusions about Judaea, Samaria and Gaza as submissive regions of an Israeli Eretz Yisra'el and Yasir 'Arafat and his delusions about a Palestine free of Jews, stretching from the Galilee to Ashqelon. Battles, to quote Professor Milson, waged for such strategic goals cannot but lead to additional battles. They are not conducive to a determination either way because they are detached from current or future realities. This is certainly the element missing in Professor Milson's basic conception: a political solution for the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el that -- albeit not satisfying their extremist aspirations -- is sufficient to lay the basis for a dialogue.

Apparently, this is the basic flaw in the moves through which Professor Milson wants to implement his principles. Before deciding on the political goals for the implementation of the Civil Administration with the prime minister and the defense minister he looked for -- and found? -- collaborators to realize his plan among the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Thus, he turned the rules of the game around. One or even a hundred Mustafa Dudins cannot guarantee a political solution which would be acceptable to the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el. However, were Israel to formulate a proposal meeting the national aspirations of the Arabs, the question of the Arab candidates to the dialogue and to decide on that proposal would be easily solved.

It is true that such a proposal can only be made by the government rather than by an official, regardless of how high up he is. Indeed, if Professor Milson is aware of the fact that one should not expect Mr Begin to come up with a proposed political solution that would even satisfy the moderates among the nationalist Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, then he has knowingly set out to undertake a futile job. Moreover, he is lending a hand to misleading people in Israel. He has promised a decisive battle over the soul of the Palestinian Arabs knowing that he is at most responsible for changing the title of a given administrative structure.

It is too premature to establish the winner of the current clash, yet one may already say that the State of Israel has overcome Ash-Shak'ah and Khalaf and that the IDF and the border police have proven their superiority over stone-throwers and knife-wavers. In retrospect, it may even be said that including "Land Day" in the "Arab uprising" slogan was a mistake since that day proceeded relatively calmly and, in any case, it lasted no longer than 1 day. And what is a day in the struggle being waged between the State of Israel and the nationalist movement of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el?

However, while the events of the last few weeks again confirmed that Bassam ash-Shak'ah and other PLO members in Judea, Samaria and Gaza prefer the State of Israel as their enemy, they have also outlined the binational paradise where the Begin-Gush Emunim government wants to lead us. When there are no borders between the populations, it is not in the least bit difficult to spread riots from one area to another. This time we witnessed a spectacular demonstration. The Arabs of Judea, Samaria and Gaza on one side and the Arabs of Sakhnin and other villages on the other; Israeli Druze and Druze on the Golan Heights unanimously expressed their dissatisfaction with Jewish rule. As noted, these events remained within the framework of a spectacular demonstration -- namely, media-oriented events. In the future, the demonstrators might discover their political strength without resorting to stones and knives. It is doubtful whether the State of Israel would find it as easy to overcome the political moves of a nationalist movement of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el that falls back on the masses just as it got the upper hand over those hurling stones and setting tires on fire.

The last few weeks have revealed that neither the advocates of the greater Eretz Yisra'el nor the PLO have a practical recipe for solving the problem of Eretz Yisra'el. Israel is strong enough to impose its will on the Arab population but it does not have a political compromise that will satisfy the aspirations of the Arabs. Therefore, it cannot set out to solve the conflict between the two peoples. On the other hand, the PLO has shown that it is capable of inciting riots -- either at its own initiative or in reaction to Israeli provocations -- and thus prove that the Israelis have bought rule but have not attained resignation. But the PLO had no strength left for anything else. In sum, there is a draw between visionaries whose solutions have no future.

IDF ASSERTIONS ON BANNED BOOKLIST CONFIRMED

TA061012 Jerusalem POST in English 6 Apr 82 pp 1, 4

[Benny Morris report]

[Excerpts] The IDF yesterday for the first time allowed a journalist to peruse the censor's list of books banned in the administered areas and explained in an exclusive interview the detailed reasons for each prohibition.

The list, shown to the Jerusalem POST, was updated through December 31, 1981, and is composed of 1,100 titles, including volumes of poetry, short stories, novels, history and political analysis. It substantially confirms previous IDF assertions about what is on the list and what is not.

Last month a number of Israeli and foreign publications, including the New York TIMES, charged that the IDF list consists of 2,000-4,000 volumes and includes such books as Alan Moorehead's The White Nile and The Blue Nile, George Orwell's 1984, and works by Egyptian writers Tawfiq al-Hakim and Najib Mahfuz.

These titles do not appear on the computer print-out list, which serves the IDF censor office as a "technical master list."

"The IDF censor approves about 99 percent of the books for which import licences are requested by West Bank and Gaza book-dealers and libraries," said a senior IDF source.

Explaining the doubling of the number of banned books from about 600 in March 1981 to the present figure, the source pointed out that in 1977, some 4,624 titles were imported into Israel from Arab countries; 8,055 in 1980; and 21,342 in 1981. The jump between 1980 and 1981 occurred as a result of the opening of the Ne'ot Sinai crossing point and the blossoming of book importation from Egypt.

"Unlike my bank account, the total number of books banned can only increase each year," said the source.

"But for every hundred books the IDF has banned, thousands more, I am sure, have been allowed through -- which could equally well have been banned," said the source. He was referring to the fact that due to the volume of book traffic through the censor's office, the censor is unable to thoroughly read each book -- and restricts himself to "leafing through." "Of course, if one story in a volume of 20 stories is found to contain anti-Semitic or inflammatory anti-Israeli material, then the whole volume is banned," explained the source.

The list of 1,000 banned titles is composed exclusively of books in Arabic and almost exclusively of books by Arabs published in Arab capitals. The list contains "one or two books" published in the Soviet Union (in Arabic) and about a dozen books translated from French, German or English into Arabic.

In one or two of these cases, the Arabic version is not an accurate translation but a variation -- with added anti-Semitic or anti-Israeli material -- of the original, such as the Arab version of Shakespeare's the Merchant of Venice, which is on the list.

In other cases, as with Yig'al Alon's The Creation and Development of the Israeli Army (insha' wa-takwin al-jaysh al-'Isra'ili), the preface added to the original volume is "hostile," states the censor's report on the book recommending the banning.

One passage the censor found objectionable in the preface of Alon's book reads: "Alon's book challenges Arab reason with its expression of innate arrogance and boundless aggression. This book is better than all the books we write on the aggressiveness of the Zionist movement and its designs of oppression, and its plans to force the Arabs to surrender...the story of Zionist imperialism in Palestine is no different from the story of the Zionist Army."

Also on the list are Arabic editions of Hitler's Mein Kampf and the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. "These books are anti-Semitic. If anyone wants to read them for research purposes, they can do so at the Hebrew University-National Library in Jerusalem," said the source, "but not at Bi'r Zayt or any West Bank library," he added, where the ban, "of course," applies.

The sources said that the legal underpinning for the book banning is the 1945 defence regu-l tions, passed by the British mandatory authorities. These empower the censor to ban what he likes throughout Israel and the administered areas. "But we use these powers only selectively, only regarding the territories," explained the IDF source. This, he said, has led to anomalies. On one side of the Green Line one can purchase or borrow Mein Kampf, while on the other side one cannot.

The IDF senior source said that "the banning of books which are pro-PLO, anti-Semitic and seditious prevents the creation of hatred in the territories. Ultimately, the censorship protects Israel and public order."

The censor's permit for each book's importation is good for one year only. "A year hence a new, different edition may be issued, with the same title. Also, it gives the censor a second chance to go over the book to see if it contains subversive material missed on the first time round," explained the source.

The "technical master list" used by the censor's office -- against which the censor compares new import licence applications to see if books requested have not already been banned -- was compiled in 1979-80 by the censors on the basis of collated orders issued since 1967 by the Military Government in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Military Government periodically issues orders banning books on the basis of IDF censor's reports on new titles submitted in bookseller's importation request lists. Apparently, the censor's office did not keep its own master copy, including all additions to the banned books list.

In 1976-77, a mistake by a Military Government official resulted in the publication of a list jumbling together the titles of banned books and books allowed for importation, throwing the whole book-banning process into disarray. This was corrected in 1979-80, with the completion of the technical master list by the censor's office on the basis of all the previous Military Government banning orders.

"The technical master list, we believe, is accurate and includes the titles of all the books banned by Military Government orders. It is theoretically possible that we have missed some books included in some orders, but I don't think this has happened," said the source.

PHOSPHATE FIELD DISCOVERED NEAR BEERSHEBA

TA070544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] A large field of phosphates, which according to experts is one of the world's richest fields as far as quality and quantity are concerned, has been discovered in the northern Negev near Beersheba. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the field was discovered by Energy Ministry and phosphate plant experts. They believe the percentage of uranium in the newly found ore is especially high. The discovery had been kept secret and now a large plant, similar to the Nahal Zin plant in size, will soon be established. According to the director of the phosphate plants in the Negev, Yosef Shalit, the new plant will supply many jobs to the residents of the south.

ROMANIAN SAILOR ASKS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

TA061520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] A Romanian sailor whose ship had been anchored at 'Al-'Aqabah port jumped to the sea, swam to Elat and asked political asylum in Israel. Our correspondent, Eytan Rabin, reports that the incident took place a few days ago and the sailor is still being kept under detention at the Elat police station. Our correspondent has learned that the Israeli authorities intend to respond positively to the sailor's request and will allow him to stay a limited period of time in Israel. The Interior Ministry will process his request.

BERLIN MAYOR MEETS BEGIN, HOPEFUL ON RELATIONS

TA061338 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The upcoming visit by the West German foreign minister to Israel may open a new page in relations between the two countries, Berlin Mayor Richard von Weizsaecker said today. He met this morning with the prime minister, and he believes that the European declarations on the Middle East do not contribute to promoting the peace process. The mayor told our correspondent David Witstum that West Germany and Israel often see eye to eye on the same issue but the translation from one language to another is the stumbling block.

[Begin recording -- in English] As you know there are expressions being used in our two countries in a somewhat different way, and therefore it is very important to find out those misunderstandings. [end recording]

The Berlin mayor added that personal problems between the Israeli prime minister and the West German chancellor must not overshadow relations between the two countries.

OAU LABOR MEETING CONTINUES IN SALISBURY

AB061141 Paris AFP in English 1117 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Salisbury, 5 April (AFP) -- A meeting of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) labour commission was dominated today by a heated debate over the legal status of nine countries that are boycotting the gathering due to the presence of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR).

Newly-elected commission chairman, Zimbabwean Labour Minister Kumbirai Kangai, said that the nine were "participating" in the meeting because they were registered on the commission list when they arrived in Salisbury. No countries have officially withdrawn from the meeting, and the required quorum of 34 -- two-thirds of the OAU membership -- had therefore technically been met, Mr Kangai said.

But the boycotters reiterated charges that the meeting, which opened yesterday, was "illegal" and threatened to leave Salisbury today. The nine -- Morocco, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Zaire, Central African Republic, Tunisia, Liberia, Mauritius and Somalia -- demanded yesterday that the meeting be suspended. They said that Sao Tome, Algeria and Chad were also elected to the commission and that the meeting had adopted a report by experts concerning social security, rehabilitation of the handicapped and migrant workers.

Meanwhile, an Algerian delegate said that the conference, originally scheduled to have continued until Friday, could perhaps wrap up as early as today due to the progress experts made in their meeting last week.

A total of 11 nations, including the boycotters, were not represented at the meeting yesterday. But Mr Kangai said that two new delegations were expected to arrive in Salisbury.

He said the present meeting was different from a session of OAU information ministers in Dakar last month, which was adjourned when 14 delegations walked out to protest against Senegal's refusal to allow the Saharans to attend. No one has walked out of the meeting hall in Salisbury, Mr Kangai said.

Rabat Comment

LD062128 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The unlawful meeting of African labor ministers has ended in mysterious circumstances. The enemies of Africa insisted on holding this meeting in Salisbury yesterday despite the lack of a quorum, thus disregarding the requirements of the OAU Charter. The meeting was scheduled to continue until Friday, but protests by a number of African countries, including Morocco, against the participation of the so-called Saharan Republic, compelled the conference to halt its meetings.

Commenting on this farce, Labor and National Revival Minister Mohamed Arsalane El Jadidi made a statement in Salisbury this morning, in which he once again exposed the distorted and unbecoming picture of Africa which appeared through this meeting. The minister stressed that Morocco and the other African countries will continue to work to save the OAU by restoring legitimacy to it.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID SPEECH AT TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

LD052252 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Speech by President Chadli Bendjedid at the sixth conference of the General Union of Algerian Workers at the Palais des Nations in Algiers on 5 April -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I want to talk about Algeria's attitudes toward international problems so as to inform the brothers. I will begin with the region in which we live and then deal with other places. Regarding the region in which we live, our policy is clear: We are pursuing cooperation and positive good neighborliness with all our neighbors. We have always striven to avoid the exportation of the Algerian revolution to our neighbors and others out of the belief that such an export is not proper for a self-respecting revolution. If people use the Algerian revolution as a model, it is first of all because of our success at home. Success at home has its influence on neighbors and others. But I don't believe in exporting revolution. We work with our neighbors, brothers and friends around Algeria, believing in cooperation and the common fate of this region.

Regarding Libya, the brothers saw a few days ago the visit of the entire Libyan Government. The entire Libyan Government met their colleagues in Algeria to study a common action program for the creation of a common integrated economy. [applause] The correct expression is an integrated economy in all fields. The meeting was characterized by an atmosphere of understanding and fraternity and a program was formulated by the two governments to follow up this important program which we believe benefits both countries by virtue of their neighborliness, common past, common choices, common direction and our belief in the one fate. [applause]

Perhaps we differ from our brothers in Libya on some political attitudes -- and this is the right of every country -- but this does not mean that we do not believe in the one fate. The threats today against Libya mean that Libya is not the only one threatened. If Libya falls, Algeria finds itself, that there are intrigues being hatched against Libya, t h e a i m b e h i n d which is the weakening of progressive forces in the region. [sentence as heard] Therefore, out of the belief in the one fate, we drew up a common program in which we ferer to each stage and occasion and circumstances prevalent and to some [word indistinct] problems. [Words indistinct]

He agreed on the method of coordination and common action beginning with the meeting of the two governments. And there may be a meeting of the national people's assemblies. And even perhaps the National People's Assembly and its counterpart in Libya will agree at least on the principles of legislation, which is basic action for the two peoples. When we have common laws, this may in itself greatly facilitate the rapprochement between the peoples, institutions and economies of the two countries.

There are also programs and meetings at the level of the party and popular organizations out of the belief that work, no matter how high it is, integration in the economic field, rapprochement in political views and others, within a framework, even if we all dream of the unity of the Arab nation, within this framework we can say that we have provided a service not only to the Arab Maghreb but also to the Arab nation, out of a belief in the responsibility of a meeting for which Algeria shoulders the responsibility. [sentence as heard] We cannot do something in order to fail at it. Thus, we believe that work should be gradual and in steps, one after the other, within the framework of the consolidation of the ranks of the Arab nation and beginning with the region in which we live -- the Arab Maghreb. Out of this belief and this understanding, there will be meetings and the brothers -- at any rate, workers and worker representatives -- will discuss with their Libyan brothers all issues, especially the ideological ones.

There is a Libyan experiment and there is an Algerian experiment. We try to exchange views and I, at any rate, I do not [word indistinct] you on all issues, but on this issue I confirm before you that no decision will be made without the approval of all the Algerian people. [applause] No decision will be made with any country without the approval of the Algerian people because rulers go, officials go and who remains? -- the people.

By virtue of my personal relations with two or three officials in which emotional factors are involved, by virtue of this, comes an imposition of something on the people who perhaps believe in it, but out of conviction. [sentence as heard] The day I feel that the Algerian people are convinced of the need for the consolidation of the ranks of the Arab nation, beginning with the Arab Maghreb, and desire this, I will conform to this desire. But without the desire of the Algerian people or the other people to adhere to this principle, there will never be things which the people do not approve, especially the Algerian people, because the revolution is of the people, by the people and the final word is always for the people. [applause]

Therefore, I say that such matters should be discussed at meetings with workers, peasants, the women's federation, the youth and through dialogue and the exchange of views. An exchange of views naturally can be undertaken at work every day. Perhaps there are some experiences from which one can benefit and can help one solve various questions. Therefore, I wanted to inform the brothers with regard to the matters talked about within this framework and out of the belief that everything should proceed step by step and every step we take should be out of our conviction, and that every step we take should not go back on the previous step, because such a step was studied and was the result of the conviction of those concerned and according to the wishes of both peoples.

Regarding the Palestinian question, we have always said that we are the soldiers of the Palestinian issue; we will stand our ground within this framework with the Palestinian people. This doesn't mean that we will shoulder the responsibility of the Palestinians or say to them: Go forward and we are with you. No. We have principles. If the Palestinian leadership tomorrow -- I say this quite frankly -- if the Palestinian leadership -- and I do not believe this will happen because we know there are revolutionaries and there are people who have principles within the Palestinian leadership -- if the Palestinian leadership makes some concessions, Algeria will be prepared to record for history's sake its attitude vis-a-vis such concessions as the Arab nation has sacrificed thousands and thousands of people to prevent such concessions being made and to uphold such principles. [applause]

There is also another problem concerning our Arab nation -- this is the war between Iraq and Iran. We very much regret what is happening. We once believed that the Islamic states, particularly Iran, constituted a strategic depth and support for the Arab nation against the Zionist enemy. I have said quite frankly on several official occasions and before all officials concerned: Yes, Algeria is an Arab and Muslim country and belongs to the Arab culture. However, we don't support the idea of racial alliance. We are against racial alliance. This would be a gain for the Arab world because the Arab world has been isolated by colonialism from the islamic world. This gain [words indistinct] achieved should not be abandoned. Had we within the Arab world been in agreement we could have raised this question. However, we within the Arab nation have disputes with each other. There is no agreement among us. [words indistinct] We believe in the solidarity of the Islamic world. Algeria is an Islamic country but we believe in solidarity with the progressive states. [applause] [Words indistinct] therefore prefer not to talk about this.

We hope our Iranian and Iraqi brothers will realize the seriousness of the situation in which the area is passing through, including the Arab and Islamic world, and that a spirit of understanding will prevail. Algeria is ready and prepared to help its brothers as much as possible to solve this problem because we regret to learn every day that lives are being lost from the Islamic world -- lives which should have been lost against the real enemies of the Arab nation and the Islamic nation. [applause]

With regard to Algeria, we, although we do not talk about it, have expressed our views on this problem. We have expressed our views so that we would not embarrass anyone at the meeting of the Political Bureau and we explained the framework for solving this problem. We said as a foundation -- and we did not want to embarrass our brothers, the Iraqis and the Iranians -- the 1975 Algiers agreement should be the one from which we can proceed to solve the problem and end the conflict between the two peoples. We still believe that wisdom will triumph and calm and peace will be restored to the region. If we can participate then, Algeria is more than willing to do so to end the war in the region among brothers in Islam.

With regard to cooperation, we believe in cooperation with all countries, particularly neighboring states and the African states and the countries of the South.

If we really believe that Algeria has a role to play in the region and also within the framework of the Third World, then first of all, we must put our house (?in order). If this is not done, we will not be able to play a role in the international sector nor [words indistinct]. We must play our role in the realization of development. For Algeria to play its role, it must fully (?realize) national development. National development requires the marshaling of all the country's resources. It helps the comprehensive development of the country and also in supervising all the country's natural resources.

We rely on the revolution's basic forces. Under the leadership of the FLN, we are all recruited to work for the homeland and for the revolution. Although there have been positive results in the past years, we can do more.

The revolution is all right. It is strong and capable of stopping any individual or group or country that tries to create problems for the Algerian revolution. It is capable of stopping any of them. [applause] We believe in our strugglers, in our people and in our choices. This is the secret of the strength of the revolution which is capable of facing all difficulties at home and abroad. Our revolution is strong and is capable of defending its principles and gains and choices thanks to our belief in these principles and choices.

LIBYA

JANA REPORTS ON SAUDI ARABIA RULING FAMILY

Financing Chad Forces

LD021502 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1426 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Paris, 2 Apr (JANA) -- An information official in the Chadian Frolinat has revealed that the Northern Forces, led by Hissein Habre, have received financial assistance totalling $180 million from the ruling family in Saudi Arabia. The money is a first payment. The official added that this information was obtained from documents found on captives from the Northern Forces.

Prison Conditions

LD021056 Tripoli JANA in English 0812 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Apr (JANA) -- The people of the Arab Peninsula are living under the fearful despotism of the Saudi ruling family who is spreading barbaric terror and tortures through a blood thirsty clique, whose practices are contrary to the preaching of the religion of Islam.

'Al-Musama'ak' prison in Riyadh and in 'Al-Ahsa'a' are centres of repression, terror, both reminders of the rule of the treasonous As-Sa'ud family. In "Al-Musama'ak" detention center these rulers are keeping thousands of citizens who refuse the policies of hegemony and protest against the primitive reactionary regime. In "Al-Ahsa'a" thousands of others are being tortured at the hands of a handful of princes who gave their soul and all the benefits and wealth reaped at the detriment of their people to imperialism.

The popular wrath against tribal rule is intensifying. Struggling masses in the Arab Peninsula are bravely facing campaigns of repression and terror. Their struggle against Saudi rulers is a symbol of steadfastness in the face of Saudi authority, which buried mercy, awakened torture, and prepared gallows before issuing sentences.

Eastern Region Ban

LD051126 Tripoli JANA in English 0950 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Apr (JANA) -- Reports from Saudi Arabia said that the Saudi family banned Saudi citizens living in the eastern region from leaving the country. This decree was in fact issued two months ago. The reports said that Fahd refused to meet a delegation representing the tribes in the eastern region who came to enquire about the decree. It is believed that the Saudi family fears the unrest in that region.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI ADDRESSES ARMY COMMANDERS

JN061150 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Apr (SUNA) -- President Numayri announced that Sudan is a target for some forces, adding that attempts from inside and outside Sudan are aimed at disintegrating the unity of the Sudanese Army because this army has been and still is the shield on which all enemy spears of rancor have foundered.

Addressing the opening session of the annual training conference of unit commanders, the president said the enemies' attempts are prompted by their awareness that undermining army unity is a first step toward striking at the Sudanese revolution and its people's achievements. President Numayri urged unit commanders to be vigilant to foil all attempts of those lying in wait for the homeland, to exploit the training programs in defense of the homeland and revolution and to confront the enemies of unity and stability. He also urged the commanders to integrate all types of equipment and sophisticated weapons that Sudan has purchased.

BURUNDI

ZAMBIA'S KAUNDA ARRIVES IN BUJUMBURA 6 APR

AB062047 Paris AFP in French 1648 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Bujumbura, 6 Apr (AFP) -- President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia arrived on Tuesday afternoon in Bujumbura for a 3-day official visit at the invitation of President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, it was announced by the Burundi news agency.

The Zambian head of state, who came from Rwanda, was met on arrival by Colonel Bagaza, surrounded by members of the Central Committee of the National Unity and Progress Party, members of the government and members of the diplomatic and consular corps, the agency added.

RWANDA

HABYARIMANA, KAUNDA SHARE 'SAME VIEWS'

AB051244 Paris AFP in French 1100 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Kigali, 5 Apr (AFP) -- On Sunday, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda asked "the South African white minority to recognize that blacks are also men created by God and that they have the right to peace, freedom, justice and independence."

Kaunda, on a visit to Rwanda, added at a banquet in his honor by President Juvenal Habyarimana: "I have never heard an African leader say South Africa's whites must be thrown to the sea."

Urging the international community "not to recognize the pseudoindependence being granted to the blacks of South Africa in order to divide them," Kaunda asked all states to exercise great pressures on South Africa to prevent it from destabilizing the neighboring countries.

The Zambian head of state also criticized Israel's authorities "who pretend to ignore their recent history marked by persecution to persecute in turn the Palestinian people and deny their right to life and a fatherland."

For his part, President Habyarimana, referring to the Western Sahara, regretted that some countries "disregard the inalienable principle of the people's self-determination." He expressed his concern over the breakup risk within the OAU and called on all African countries to quickly find a solution, "safeguarding the unity of the continent and the credibility of the OAU."

Lastly, the Rwandan president declared that Rwanda and Zambia shared the same views on major international issues, especially South Africa, Middle East and Western Sahara.

GHANA

ATIM CALLS SOCIALISTS AFRICA'S 'TRUE FRIENDS'

AB030918 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] A member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Mr Chris Atim, has said the revolution in Ghana has entered the phase of economic reconstruction. The country, therefore, needs assistance to overcome the crisis state of the economy.

Mr Atim, who is leading a government delegation on a tour of some East European countries, was speaking in an interview in the Soviet Union. He said the socialist countries are the true friends of Africa and recounted their numerous assistance in liberation movements in Africa. Mr Atim also noted the positive contributions from the socialist countries to Ghana during the rule of Dr Nkrumah. He regretted that the ousted Limann administration hampered Ghana's cooperation with the socialist countries.

Mr Atim said it is the determination of the PNDC to [words indistinct].

PDC OFFICIAL: DOORS TO ONE BLOC NOT BEING SHUT

AB052200 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] A member of the interim national coordinating committee of the people's defense council [PDC], Mr Kwesi Adu, has made it clear that the nation is not shutting its doors to one power bloc in favor of another as many people now tend to believe. The situation is that in the Provisional National Defense Council's [PNDC] efforts to make the country a better place to live, some countries have adopted cold attitudes toward it. Mr Kwesi Adu said this at a congress of chairmen and secretaries of PDC's from Brong-Ahafo in Sunyani. He said in such a situation, the nation has no alternative but to turn to where it can have the necessary help and audience.

Mr Kwesi Adu asked Ghanaians not to allow the present situation to bother them, but to work toward the reconstruction of the nation. He asked Ghanaians to be on their guard for people who would want to nurse tribal feelings to bring about disunity among them.

The PNDC regional secretary, Mr Saara-Mensah, announced that the people's task force is to be established in the region with the PDC as the basis. He said with the PDC as the basis of the revolution, members should not engage in destructive issues like chieftancy disputes. Instead, they should work toward unification of the various factions in the region. The regional secretary called for discipline on the part of PDC members.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES U.S. ARMS EXPENDITURE

AB041202 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Efua Sam commentary]

[Text] The United States has once again turned down Soviet proposals for a freeze on nuclear arms, the decision, which implies that the United States will go ahead with planned huge military expenditure, both in stockpiling modern weapons and in armament research. The United States claims that the Soviet Union has superiority over her in nuclear arms and that the proposed nuclear freeze would only guarantee that unbalanced situation. The policies and actions of the United States towards armament issues give cause for worry and concern.

The alleged superiority of the Soviet Union in nuclear arms is a myth meant to deceive the world. Statistics and analysis provided by the International Institute of Strategic Studies and similar organizations monitoring the arms race, show parity between the two superpowers. This was confirmed only last year by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig when he admitted that parity existed between his country and the Soviet Union in the field of strategic nuclear arms. Its worry then was that the Soviet Union could outstrip the United States in the future.

Besides, it is really meaningless to talk about nuclear superiority considering the immense destructive potential of piled up nuclear weapons in the world today. The explosive potential of the present nuclear arsenal is estimated at 1 1/2 million times that of the atomic bomb which the United States dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. Obviously, the damage that can be unleashed by only a portion of these extremely dangerous weapons is so serious and expensive that there can be no victory for any side in a nuclear war. And for any possible survivors, including those who may hide in nuclear shelters being built all over the advanced countries, life will be totally meaningless if not impossible. In spite of its immense military strength, the United States still persists in the crazy arms buildup. At the moment, that country has 4 million men under arms with 12,000 field artillery, 20,000 air force units and 848 naval units. It also has over 2,000 nuclear delivery weapons, 11,000 tanks and over 300 major military bases all over the world among other things.

With this amazing arsenal and destructive potential, one wonders how the United States is threatened by any power on earth who wants more arms. Yet the Reagan administration plans to increase its already mind-blowing military expenditure by 1986, this figure would reach 373 billion. If the United States is really threatened, why has the government refused to ratify the SALT II agreement which consolidates equality in strategic weapons, limits the number of nuclear weapons delivery systems of the two superpowers and bars the way to their further qualitative and quantitative development?

In general, the arms race is a [word indistinct] and a threat to the whole of mankind. It is now possible to completely wipe out life on this planet of ours. Human and material resources which could be used for urgently needed equal development are being wasted on armament and military forces. And in all the useless but dangerous arms race, it is the developing countries who are being dragged into the arms race even as millions of their people live in absolute poverty and misery. If mankind is to survive in a peaceful world and if there should be genuine social progress for all people, then firm brakes must be put on the arms race, especially on the buildup of nuclear weapons. Towards this end, peace-loving forces and countries the world over must bring the moral pressure of world opinion to bear on the United States Government to put an end to its intransigant attitude towards a nuclear freeze and possible disarmament.

MOROCCAN DELEGATION DELIVERS HASSAN II MESSAGE

AB021839 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] A three-man Moroccan delegation left Accra today after delivering a special message from King Hassan II to the Provisional National Defense Council. It was led by the former prime minister, Ahmed Osman. According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the delegation discussed ways and means of breaking the impasse in the OAU over the admission of the SDAR of the Polisario into the OAU. It will be recalled that the SDAR was recognized by the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council in 1979. Ghana was among the other countries which supported the admission of the new republic at the OAU summit in Freetown in 1980.

It is understood that in order to avoid disruptions at the various meetings of the OAU, some member states have advocated the convening of an extraordinary OAU summit. Other member states favor the convening of a meeting of a select group of states to work out an acceptable compromise.

Ghana expressed to the Moroccan delegation her readiness to participate in any process for resolving the impasse.

THREE FORMER OFFICIALS DECLARED 'WANTED PERSONS'

AB051831 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Three persons have been declared wanted persons. They are Col Anor Odjidjah, former head of the military intelligence; Mr Kofi Batsa, former chairman of the Publicity Committee of the dissolved People's National Party; and Mr Francis Poku, a former officer of the Special Branch.

The Provisional National Defense Council notes that in spite of the repeated statements asking them to report to either the police or military authorities, they have failed to do so. The three persons are, however, known to have committed grievious offenses against Ghanaians and the nation, for which they have to answer.

The public is requested to cooperate with the police and the military authorities to effect their arrest.

31 DECEMBER YOUTH BRIGADE TO BE FORMED

AB040816 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 4 Apr 82

[Text] The youth and students task force is to be institutionalized and turned into a body to be known as the 31 December Youth Brigade. The measure is part of a national mobilization program for the country's reconstruction. This was announced by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] secretary for youth and sports, Zaya Yeebo, when he was addressing the annual general meeting of the Voluntary Workcamps Association in Accra yesterday. His topic was mass youth movement as a tool for rapid national reconstruction. Mr Yeebo said the brigade will undertake agricultural, constructional, educational and health schemes. He said the modalities of the program are being worked out and will be released for discussion at the appropriate time. Mr Yeebo noted that the country is at war with hunger, illiteracy, poverty, social injustice, miseducation and brutal exploitation of the country's resources by foreign companies. He said the country cannot afford to lose since the failure of the holy war will be a disaster not only to the PNDC, but all Ghanaians.

Giving the keynote address on the theme "Youth and Rural Development in a Revolution," the PNDC secretary for rural development and cooperatives, Kweku Ankomah, stressed the need to awaken in the youth the ambition to do something beneficial to themselves and the nation. This, he said, calls for a training that will make them practical men and women who can cope with emergencies. Mr Ankomah said as a result of the popular erroneous view that physical labor is degrading, many of the youth are anxious to educate themselves to fit almost any position that does not require physical labor. Mr Ankomah said these characters should not be allowed to emerge again. In this regard, he urged the Voluntary Workcamps Association to lead the youth to recognize that there is a reward to virtuous industry and earnest hardwork. The secretary added that unless Ghanaians are prepared to develop a new spirit of the dignity of labor, the revolution cannot achieve the desired result.

STANDARD BANK TOLD TO KEEP PROFITS IN COUNTRY

AB021447 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] A member of the PNDC [Provisonal National Defense Committee], Rev Dr Damuah, has asked multinational organizations operating in Ghana to play a more meaningful role in the country's economy. They should reinvest their profits in the country instead of repatriating them. Inaugurating the people's defense committee [PDC] of the Standard Bank in Accra, Rev Dr Damuah said multinational organizations should be more concerned about the welfare of their workers. This is because they cannot operate without them. He spoke against the Valco [Volta Aluminum Company] agreement and called for its review. The secretary for information, Mr Ato Austin, asked commercial banks to change their mode of operations to benefit majority of the people. He accused the banks of contributing to Ghana's problems. The secretary wondered why they support many vehicle assembly plants, instead of foundries which have an important role to play in the country's development. He urged the PDC to ensure that the bank supports viable economic ventures.

The chairman of the defense committee, Mr Kodjo Alex, announced that the committee has decided to set up a task fund to help harvest food items. He therefore called for the assistance of management to this fund. The acting director of the GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation], Mr Kwame Kakari, chaired the function. He asked the Standard Bank's PDC to make sure that the bank keeps most of its profits in the country.

COMMENTARY ASKS MORE RELIEF FOR ORDINARY WORKER

AB312038 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Mar 82

[David Anaglate commentary]

[Text] Workers, peasants and other sectors of the ordinary people of this country have demonstrated their support for the ongoing revolution and are continuing to show their enthusiasm through voluntary work of all sorts. But in order to sustain this enthusiasm, in order to keep 14 million Ghanaians as one great army fighting both external and internal enemies of their revolution, further urgent attention needs to be given to the question of high cost of living. This is not to say that the people's government has not done much in this crucial area. It has drastically reduced rents and it is only left to the worker tenants themselves to insist on paying the new low rents.

The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] has also reduced transport fares. Here, comparing the new fares to prerevolution ones, one can say that the new ones represent a considerable relief for the worker. A relief which is in the region of well over 60 percent, especially in long distance fares. However, since the main indices of expenditure in every family are rent, transport, food, clothing, education, health and entertainment and since the government has so far only hit at the areas of transport and rent, there is the need to tackle the other areas immediately in order to effect the necessary relief.

Let us take food prices first. Food consumes the biggest portion of the worker's income. Indeed, before the advent of the revolution, workers were spending more than their normal wages and salaries on food alone. Unfortunately, one must say that the advent of the revolution has not changed this pattern. Appeals to foodsellers to reduce prices have not been heeded. Some people contend that the problem is one of shortages, others say it is transport. At present, it appears the government has accepted the view that the problem is one of low production and it is planned to boost food production. Laudable as this plan is it must be observed that it is rather of a long-term nature. Simultaneously with this, we must explore the possibility of a crash program to lift food from the rural areas to the centers of worker concentration where, naturally, hunger is experienced.

It should be possible for the Ministry of Trade to release sufficient commodities, such as soap, sugar, etc to the Food Distribution Corporation [FDC] which should commandeer enough trucks to the food growing areas, buy foodstuff from farmers, and, in return, sell the essential commodities to them at control prices. The foodstuff bought can then be brought to the urban centers for sale to workers. This suggestion is based on the belief that there is a large quantity of foodstuff locked up on the farms either because of transportation problems or because farmers refuse to take them to urban centers for fear of being forced to sell at control prices, which to them are uneconomical in view of the high transport fares and the high prices they usually pay for their personal requirements. Thus, the provisional transport by the FDC and the sale to them of essential commodities at low prices should remove all the causes of their refusal to sell. Matters should be left [word indistinct] in this exercise because the reduction of workers' expenditure on food is crucial for sustaining enthusiasm for the revolution.

Another area of concern is school fees. It will be recalled that when the PNDC appealed to proprietors of private schools to reduce fees, they only came out with a paltry 10 percent reduction. This is grossly inadequate. The secretary for education should see to it that the private schools reduce their fees in line with other sectors of the economy. Further, fees in assisted secondary schools should also be reduced. The 420 cedis per term being paid now is just too much. Remember, these fees were fixed arbitrarily by a headmasters conference following their complaints about high costs of feeding in schools. Now that the schools stand the chance of getting foodstuff and other commodities at control prices, there is no justification for maintaining these inordinately high fees. Workers cannot afford these fees on their legitimate salaries. The revolution is meant to benefit workers and the secretaries in charge of education and food should back up and initiate moves to ensure a drastic reduction in their areas to meet the pockets of workers.

Other areas which should be tackled include the high rate ordinary consumers pay for electricity. Multinationals such as Valco [Volta Aluminium Company] pay 1/100 of what a domestic consumer pays for electricity. Valco should be the one to bear the costs for running the Electricity Corporation and the Volta River Authority and not the overtaxed worker, and the scales should be reversed to ensure that Valco pays an economic rate for what it uses so that its huge profits can be reduced. It is true that time is needed for the efforts that are being made to improve the economy in its entirety, but in the meantime no efforts should be spared to bring meaningful relief to the ordinary worker as a short term measure.

GUINEA

FORMER MINISTER EXPELLED FROM PARTY COMMITTEE

AB031420 Paris AFP in French 1203 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Dakar, 3 Apr (AFP) -- Former Guinean Public Works Minister Ibrahim Kabassan Keita, who was dismissed on 18 March for embezzlement, has been excluded from the Central Committee of the "Democratic Party of Guinea" and has been taken off the list of cadres of Guinea's People's Armed Forces, a communique broadcast on radio Conakry and monitored in Dakar on Saturday morning announced.

The communique, which was issued from the Council of Ministers meeting, states that at the present stage of the inquiry, it has already been established that the amount embezzled by Major Keita is more than 20 million sylis (about 200 million CFA francs).

Ibrahim Kabassan Keita was chief of staff of the navy, regional governor and minister of mines and geology.

GUINEA-BISSAU

VIEIRA SAYS GAMBIA COUP LEADERS EXPELLED

AB061135 Paris AFP in French 1108 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Bissau, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Guinea-Bissau President Joao Vieira officially announced that his government has expelled the leaders of the 30 July attempted coup in Gambia, who sought refuge in Bissau after their coup failed.

The Guinea-Bissau leader did not state either the date of the expulsion or the country where they were sent. But, according to reliable sources, the "brain" of the attempted coup d'etat in Banjul, Kukli Samba Sanyang, and about ten of his companions have left Guinea-Bissau for "a country which maintains good, friendly and cooperative ties with Guinea-Bissau."

In a speech at a meeting in the eastern part of the country, President Vieira affirmed that the measure was taken to preserve the ties of friendship between Guinea-Bissau and Gambia and the relations of goodneighborliness existing between the two countries.

It is recalled that at the end of the Conakry summit which brought together heads of state of Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal and Guinea, the four presidents "expressed their desire to cooperate in defense and security against any acts of subversion and destabilization in the subregion carried out against our states."

IVORY COAST

SIX-MAN CSSR DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

AB041327 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 4 Apr 82

[Text] The CSSR and Ivory Coast want to strengthen their relations. To this end, a six-man CSSR delegation is visiting our country. It will hold several talks with Ivorian officials.

LIBERIA

DOE CRITICIZES MOI'S HANDLING OF SDAR ISSUE

AB052035 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] The Liberian leader, Commander in Chief [CIC] Samuel Kanyon Doe, also chairman of the People's Redemption Council [PRC], has criticized the current chairman of the OAU, Daniel arap Moi, over the recent handling of the Western Sahara situation. The CIC, who earlier expressed his concern over the situation in a telegram to President Daniel arap Moi, said today that the calling of another meeting of the "wise men committee" is useless. He noted that while the committee was probing the situation the secretary general admitted the Polisario Front to the OAU. Commander in Chief Doe said this was most irregular, noting that only the summit of heads of state and governments could effect such a decision. The fact that the current chairman expressed his neutrality on the issue only increased the antagonism within the organization and made it more difficult for a compromise to be reached.

The head of state emphasized that the preservation of our organization requires decisions of firmness. Commander in Chief Doe said the present situation is casting a vain shadow on the OAU which could affect the future of the organization. He therefore endorses the convening of an extraordinary session of the OAU to resolve this issue as early as possible.

DOE DISMISSES THEFT COURT JUDGES FOR CORRUPTION

AB030945 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] The chief judge of the people's special theft court, William Godfrey, and his deputy Joseph Sando, have been dismissed by head of state, CIC [Commander in Chief] Samuel K. Doe. CIC Doe dismissed the two judges this morning when he paid a surprise visit to the theft court to acquaint himself with the present state of affairs at the court.

In recent weeks, there have been reports of corruption and maladministration in the people's special theft court involving chief judge Godfrey and his deputy Sando. Informing the judges of their dismissal during his visit, Head of State Doe said it was regrettable that the judges who were responsible to adjudicate cases of corruption had engaged in accusing each other of corruption and malpractices. He said the attitude of the two judges had caused some embarrassment to government, adding that such a pattern of behavior was not in conformity with the aims and objectives of the revolution. CIC Doe said the dismissal of the two judges was intended to create a good atmosphere at the theft court.

Last February, George Joseph Sulli of the theft court was dismissed by Head of State Doe from criminal [word indistinct] and turned over to the Justice Ministry for investigation.

Meanwhile, Head of State Doe has sent a letter to Justice Mnister Issac Nyeplu, informing him about the dismissal of judges William Godfrey and Joseph Sando. In his letter, the head of state in consultation with the People's Redemption Council [PRC] asked the reorganization of the court to make it more effective. CIC Doe has also sent separate letters to the two judges officially informing them of their dismissal. The head of state was accompanied to the court by PRC Speaker Brig Gen Jefrey F. Gbatu and PRC Secretary General Col Abraham Kollie.

COUNTRY'S OIL POTENTIAL CALLED FAIR TO GOOD

AB031115 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] A study on the evaluation report of offshore hydrocarbon potential of Liberia at the just ended 3-day seminar has confirmed that the hydrocarbon potential of Liberia can be [words indistinct] as fair to good. The confirmation was contained in a press statement issued today following the closing session of the seminar at the unity conference center in Virginia near Monrovia.

The objective of the seminar was to solicit exploration proposals for Liberia's offshore block for international oil companies.

The seminar which began in Monrovia last Wednesday was sponsored by the Lands, Mines and Energy Ministry and brought together 50 oil experts from North America, Europe and Africa who studied behind closed doors the evaluation report on offshore hydrocarbon potential of Liberia. The report was conducted and compiled by (?Salwin) and Associates, an international consulting firm [words indistinct] the United States of America.

According to the press statement, the [word indistinct] and Associates report indicates that there are three basinal areas in Liberia. They include the Robert Balsha basin with an offshore area of 3,000 sq km. The offshore sectors extend to the southeast of the country with an area of some 1,250 sq km and the Monrovia basin to the northeast with an offshore area of 850 sq km.

MALI

TRAORE MEETS WITH MOROCCAN INFORMATION MINISTER

AB052045 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] The head of state, who leaves for the fifth region tomorrow, continues with his presidential activities. For example, at 0830 this morning, he received in audience Dr Abdelwahad Belkeziz, Moroccan information, youth and sports minister. On behalf of His Majesty King Hassan II, the Moroccan envoy explained the Moroccan position on the SDAR issue. He also expressed the Moroccan monarch's preoccupation with the crisis shaking the OAU and his constant readiness to preserve the unity of the continent.

For his part, the secretary general of the party and the president of the Malian Republic reaffirmed Mali's unflinching desire to preserve the unity of the continent in all spheres -- an objective to which all activities of our country have been geared.

Having strongly recommended the use of fruitful dialogue for the resolution of problems among African countries, President Moussa Traore asked the Moroccan minister to transmit to His Majesty King Hassan II his sincere gratitude for dispatching the mission to our country to explain things to us. The president spoke at length on Mali's ever-readiness to contribute to the restoration of peace and stability on the continent. The discussions were held in the presence of the Moroccan charge d'affaires in Mali; Blondin Beye, our foreign affairs and international cooperation minister; and Tidiane Guisse, head of state's diplomatic adviser. After the audience, Belkeziz made a statement to Abdoulai Sidibe:

[Begin recording] First of all, I would like to thank Radio Mali for offering me the opportunity to pay homage to the president of Mali, the Government of Mali and the Malian people and to transmit to them the greetings of their brother, King Hassan II of the Kingdom of Morocco.

The purpose of my visit to Mali falls within the framework of missions to African countries decided upon by His Majesty King Hassan II, with the primary aim of exchanging views with all African leaders -- both those who hold the same analysis which we Moroccans have made of the situation in Africa and those who do not support it. Precisely, the purpose is to discuss and reflect together on the problems facing our African unity in such a way as to avoid any (?misunderstanding) and to save the OAU -- an organization to which authentic Africans must be fully attached.

[Question] In this case, what impressions have you gotten after meeting President Moussa Traore?

[Answer] My impressions were very good. As a matter of fact, and as is usual of the president, he, as a very dignified and sincere African, asked me to inform His Majesty King Hassan II of the position of the government of this great country and its preoccupation with this crisis raging within the OAU.

[Question] Exactly. Concerning this crisis, Mr Minister, in history, one prefers to be an element of unity rather than of disunity. If the OAU were to break up because of this SDAR crisis, history will retain the names of the countries particularly concerned -- one such country is Morocco. How far is your country ready to go to avoid a possible split of the OAU?

[Answer] I say his majesty the king has decided to send envoys throughout Africa, and I am sure that this decision is explicit. As I was saying, we went to countries whose governments support our analysis as well as to those whose analyses are different from ours. I am sure this is an indication that we want history to [words indistinct] comportment within the organization in order to save it, and it is also a means of rejecting all positions which could result in the splitting of the organization.

[Sidibe] I thank you very much, Mr Minister, for the explanation. [end recording]

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR INDIA, DPRK 2 APR

AB040627 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] A delegation of the Democratic Union of Malian People, led by Mohamed Taliri Soumare, member of the Central Executive Bureau, and including parliamentarian Yaya Bakayoko, left Bamako yesterday for New Delhi, India, and Pyongyang, Korea. In New Delhi, the delegation will participate in a seminar on the ideas of [word indistinct] from 9 to 11 April. And in Pyongyang, the delegation will represent Mali at the celebration of the 70th birthday of President Kim Il-song.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI URGES CONCERTED FOOD PRODUCTION EFFORT

AB021423 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has called for a concerted effort by all Nigerians to make the country self-sufficient in food production. He remarked that for the green revolution program to succeed, the agricultural sector must be modernized and made more productive and profitable, pointing out that this was a responsibility that could not be shouldered by the government alone. The president was speaking in Kaduna today while declaring open the second national agricultural show. He pointed out that the scientific community, the manufacturers of chemicals and machinery, the banks and other private sector institutions have a vital role to play in helping the farmer to modernize his business.

President Shagari stated all government efforts will be to no avail if the private sector did not cooperate in going out to the rural areas to do business with the farmers. He noted that no lasting solution could be found to the problem of food shortage in the country if the needs of the country's neighbors were not taken into account. The president said his government will continue to assist other countries, especially in the West Africa subregion, to increase their food production. He described the agricultural show as a forum for the exchange of ideas and experience between farmers and scientists and for the business contact with the private sector. President Shagari stated that his government has given the state governments and the private sector the necessary leadership by launching the green revolution program which, he said, will make Nigeria self-sufficient in food production within 5 years. He appealed that the program should not be politicized because what was needed was the cooperation of everybody to ensure its success.

EKWUEME SAYS WEST WOULD GAIN FROM PEACE IN RSA

AB041024 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Those Western countries which have financial investments in racist South Africa have been reminded that they have more to gain if peace is allowed to reign in that country.

The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, said that when peace reigns, then their commercial interests will be better promoted. He was speaking in Lagos yesterday when the ambassador of Sweden, Bo Elfwendahl, called on him. Dr Alex Ekwueme said that the process of self-determination for the people of Namibia could not be delayed much longer. He expressed gratitude to the Nordic governments for the moral support given to Nigeria and other African countries in their fight against racism and colonial domination in Namibia and South Africa. Dr Ekwueme regretted that other Western countries, because of misplaced short-term self interests, were not following the example of the Nordic countries.

Earlier, the ambassador had briefed the vice president on the progress of the Sweden-Nigeria joint venture signed in August last year and which he described as satisfactory.

NIGERIA-ROMANIA JOINT COMMISSION MEETING OPENS

AB051302 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] The minister of national planning, Mrs Adenike Oyagbola, has said that cooperation between Nigeria and other countries of the world must be on the basis of equal benefits. She stated that under the declining world economic situation some countries were luckier than Nigeria because they had other products to fall back on.

The minister, who made the remarks while addressing the opening session of the Nigeria-Romania joint commission in Lagos today, urged the country's delegates to the meeting to look into ways of ensuring that Nigerian products were patronized by Romania. Mrs Oyagbola told them that a list of Nigerian products would be made available to them for invoice studies and expressed the hope that the products will meet their tastes. The minister implored both sides to ensure that their deliberations were focused on those areas that would contribute immensely to the early achievement of the economic goals the two countries had set for themselves. Mrs Oyagbola noted that trade between Nigeria and Romania had always been in favor of that country and called for ways of balancing it and the intensification of the existing cooperation.

The vice prime minister of Romania, Mr Nicolae Constantin, who was at the head of his country's team, had earlier explained some of the capabilities of his country and possible ways it could assist Nigeria in her development efforts. He asked for an opportunity for his country to participate actively in the development of the new federal capital, Abuja.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA 1 APR

LD031454 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Lagos, 3 Apr (MAP) -- The Nigerian President Mr Shehu Shagari received here Thursday in Lagos the Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, Mr M'hamed Boucetta, in the presence of the Nigerian minister of foreign affairs. Later on, Mr Boucetta offered a dinner which was attended by members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Lagos, the staff of the Moroccan Embassy and several other personalities. Mr Boucetta left Friday the Nigerian capital, heading for Nairobi.

SIERRA LEONE

STEVENS DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT, SETS VOTING DATES

AB021749 Paris AFP in French 1735 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Freetown, 2 Apr (AFP) -- President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone dissolved Parliament on Friday and set the date for the upcoming legislative elections as 30 April. Mr Stevens also set 5 April as the date for primary elections, designed to chose which of three candidates will run in the 30 April general election.

ANGOLA

COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCES TROOP CONCENTRATIONS

EA061234 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Communique issued by the Angolan Defense Ministry in Luanda on 5 April]

[Text] Through its embassy in France, Angola has denounced the concentration of about 20,000 troops -- among them soldiers from the racist South African forces, mercenaries of American, British, Portuguese and other nationalities. Angola also denounced the concentration on airstrips in northern Namibia of dozens of aircraft with the objective of attacking Angola.

This aggression would be possible due to the connivance of the West, headed by the United States, where the Reagan administration has eased the restrictions on supplies of equipment to the apartheid army and police.

The Pretoria regime said its army limits itself only to pursuit of SWAPO guerrillas fleeing into Angolan territory. However, the truth is that the aggression is aimed fundamentally at Angolan citizens, themselves refugees, and at the Angolan economic structure.

At the end of March, reconnaisance flights increased substantially over the entire southern area, totalling about 150 violations of Angolan airspace.

In early April, the racist South African preparations seem to have increased to a degree comparable to the situation in August 1981. For example: On 3 April about 50 South African racist troops in helicopters, two Pumas and two Alouettes, landed about 6 km from Capelongo near Mulondo. On the following day, 4 April, at about 1141, the racist enemy air force bombed the outskirts of Chibemba; nine aircraft took part in the attack.

The objective of these actions is essentially to maintain the state of no-man's land, with the final aim of not applying UN Resolution 435 for a real and complete independence of the illegally occupied Namibian territory.

The Defense Ministry once again alerts international public opinion to the ambition of the South African aggressors and calls for its condemnation. Any new aggression by the Pretoria regime against Angola starting from Namibia will be firmly repulsed by all the Angolan people, supported by all progressive peoples.

The Defense Ministry condemns Pretoria's intentions and points out the serious and damaging consequences of this new adventure.

[Signed] Col Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale

SAVIMBI DESCRIBES CONTACTS WITH 'WESTERN FIVE'

LD061156 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The leader of the UNITA resistance movement in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says he has held talks with representatives of the Western five contact group on South-West Africa/Namibia in connection with proposals for a settlement in the territory. He said in an interview with a radio South Africa news team at a UNITA base camp in southeastern Angola that the contacts with the Western five had been positive. He added, however, that the United Nations had not approached UNITA to discuss the establishment of a demilitarized zone in southern Angola. Dr Savimbi said that without contacting him, the United Nations would get nowhere in matters involving southern Angola.

He did not expect the world organization to recognize his movement, but UNITA had to be considered a factor with a role to play in any future developments. He said if the UN task force was deployed on both sides of the border between South-West Africa/Namibia and Angola, it should be remembered that he controlled a large part of that region.

Dr Savimbi was interviewed during the handing over of a group of Portuguese prisoners to Red Cross officials. The group, including women and children, arrived in Pretoria last night. They will remain in South Africa for the next few days before returning to Portugal.

The South African news team were shown two Russian pilots captured by UNITA more than a year ago after their transport aeroplane had been shot down over the southern Angola. The Russians were in good health although they appeared in low spirits. Dr Savimbi said he was willing to negotiate the pilots' release with the Soviet Government but until now no contact had been made.

ZAMBIA

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

LD011024 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Zambia and Bulgaria today signed a protocol for closer cooperation between the two countries covering a wide range of fields. The protocol signed at Lusaka's Mulungushi Hall this afternoon is a result of executive meetings of the third session of the Bulgaria-Zambia committee for economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation which started last Monday. [Passage indistinct] and discussed forms of closer cooperation in agriculture, industry and (?mines), transport and construction, trade and finance. The protocol also calls for an urgent meeting between ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY and BULGARIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY (?experts) to devise speedier methods of (?conveying) news items to each other.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE COMMITTED TO SOCIALISM, RECONCILIATION

AB030902 Paris AFP in English 0742 GMT 3 Apr 82

[By Jean-Michel Stoullig]

[Text] Salisbury, 3 April (AFP) -- Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has reaffirmed his commitment both to socialism and his policy of reconcilation, and hinted that he might call more whites into his Cabinet.

Mr Mugabe also warned some 5,000 white commercial farmers that the state called on them to "surrender a substantial part of (their) land for resettlement and that it expected co-operation and not resistance."

Addressing a debating group, the National Affairs Association, in Salisbury yesterday Mr Mugabe said that the farmers -- who own half of the country's farmland -- had "preferential treatment because they were responsible for sustaining our lives." "If we fail in feeding ourselves," he said, "the rest will fail."

The government has now resettled some 50,000 landless black farmers and plans to resettle 165,000 more over the next three years. But some 70,000 squatters now occupy commercial land.

Mr Mugabe, referring to the government's three-year national transition development plan, said the orientation of the ruling ZANU (PF) Party was "decidedly socialist." But he said he "recognized the limitations and constraints that make it impossible for us to establish an all-embracing socialist system overnight."

Private enterprise would remain [word indistinct] in Zimbabwe's economy for "some time to come," Mr Mugabe said.

Calling for the co-operation of every group in the Zimbabwean society, he said: "We have a social and moral duty to be reconciled to one another and hold ourselves more as allies ... than as opponents."

Referring to the recent split in former Prime Minister Ian Smith's Republican Front (RF), where nine out of 19 white MP's left the party, Mr Mugabe said that "he felt the image of the RF was not very good for the ordinary whites in this country." "The government found it difficult to pick up people in the Front to represent the white community," he said. But he told the mixed audience that he was "currently thinking" of enlarging his Cabinet to include more whites. There is now only one white minister.

Earlier this week Mr Smith urged the white community -- less than 200,000 amid the some 7.5 million blacks -- not to run away from the country. Speaking in Bulawayo, he called for the "elimination of recrimination" and said that whites should not be defeatist. Mr Smith also warned "misguided elements" that "they courted disaster" by trying to circumvent the ballot box by picking up arms. "The state of peace we currently enjoy must continue to reign ... as a precondition for progress," he said.

SWAPO OFFICIAL EXPLAINS ECONOMIC POLICIES

AB021800 Paris AFP in English 1736 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Salisbury, 2 April (AFP) -- Marxist SWAPO, if chosen as the government of an independent Namibia, would want skilled whites to stay in the country and would strive to have pragmatic economic policies similar to those of Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, a SWAPO official indicated here today.

But a lot would depend on how SWAPO, the South-West Africa People's Organization, came to power and the duration of the guerrilla war over South Africa's continued control of the territory, Hage Geingob, a member of SWAPO's Central Committee said.

SWAPO would want to maintain and expand existing mineral and industrial production, Mr Geingob said. (?It would) therefore encourage skilled whites to stay if it wins control of the territory, he said.

"Once Namibia becomes independent SWAPO would like to maintain the existing infrastructure and production," said Mr Geingob, who was also leading SWAPO's delegation to a United Nations-sponsored conference here on Namibia's economic potential.

"You cannot do that without skilled manpower," he said. "We won't want to chase skilled manpower away. Our hope is that whites in Namibia will not all go away after our independence. We hope they will accept the reality of change and will work to help develop the country."

Mr Geingob's remarks are similar to those of Mr Mugabe, whose policies have encouraged many skilled whites to stay in Zimbabwe. "We can learn a lot from Zimbabwe's example," Mr Geingob said, referring to the way the Mugabe government has tried to improve living standards for blacks by encouraging the private sector, and creating a mixed economy.

The U.N. conference studied economic options for Namibia, and made recommendations that generally supported Mr Geingob's views, conference officials said. "We found SWAPO to be very flexible," one U.S. official said.

"Of course SWAPO's economic policies after independence will be affected by how we come to power," Mr Geingob said.

"If there is a negotiated settlement and we inherit a good infrastructure, like Zimbabwe's then we would probably take a similar economic path," he said. "But if we come to power as the result of protracted war, then considerable damage would have been done to the country and so we might adopt more radical economic policies."

SDAR MINISTER: OAU REFERENDUM COMMITTEE FAILED

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[Text] Mohamed Salem Ould Salek, SDAR information minister, said yesterday in the capital of Zimbabwe that the African committee in charge of the implementation of the referendum has failed because of the intransigence of Morocco and its persistent refusal to commence talks, the inevitable road to a peaceful settlement in the Western Sahara. He said the SDAR Government told the current OAU president that the presence of Sekou Toure on the implementation committee deprives it of any regard and places before us the impossibility of cooperating with a committee on which sits a person whose bias is known to all.

Ould Salek explained that the SDAR and Morocco are member states of the OAU and that the solution to the war between them should be through direct talks between them. He added that wisdom and clearsightedness dictate that all African states should be united on the basis of the principles of the organization's charter. He pointed out that some countries do not adhere to this, but obey their imperialist masters, particularly the United States, work by all means for the division of our continent and its subordination to the exploitation of colonialist forces. He added that the opposition of some proves that we are on the right road, the road to justice and freedom to our continent because those who today oppose SDAR admission to the OAU are those who in 1972 opposed the admission of the People's Republic of Angola and who opposed the organization's recognition of the National Front of Zimbabwe and who had always called for flexibility and dialogue with the racists who oppress millions of our brothers in South Africa and Namibia.